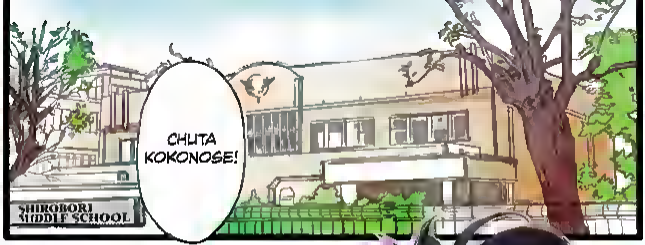
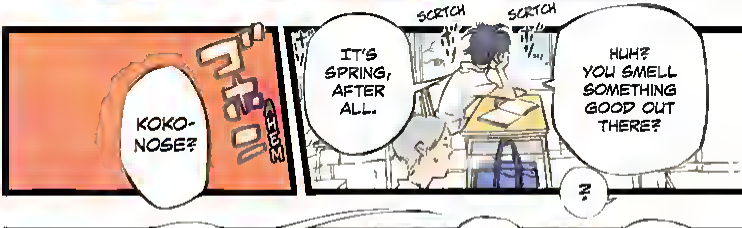
CHAPTER 1
CHUTA, THE "VOICE" AND THE QUALIFYING EXAM

éIDLIVE
STORY AND ART BY AKIRA AMANO

JUMP START
SERIES #4!
A TASTE OF WHAT'S NEW IN JAPAN
CHAPTER 1
CHUTA, THE "VOICE" AND THE QUALIFYING EXAM


CHUTA KOKONOSE!
SHIROBORI MIDDLE SCHOOL

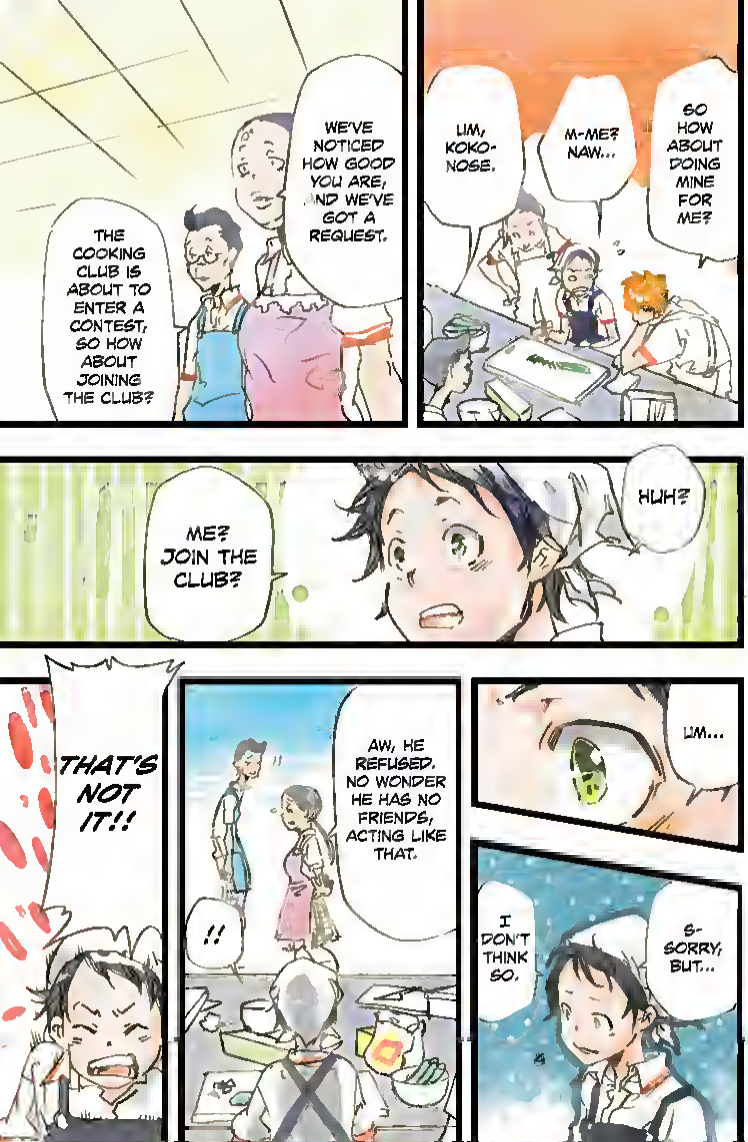
DANG

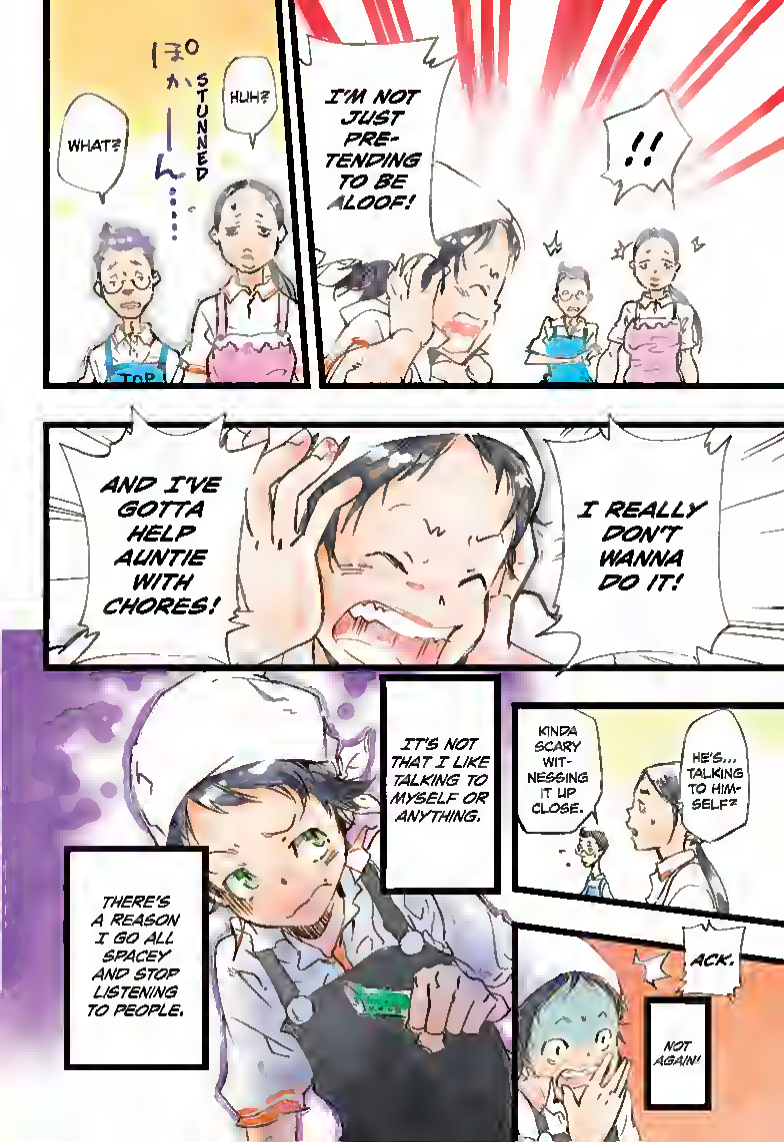

KOKO-NOSE?
SCRITCH
IT'S SPRING, AFTER ALL.
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
HUH? YOU SMELL SOMETHING GOOD OUT THERE?
?

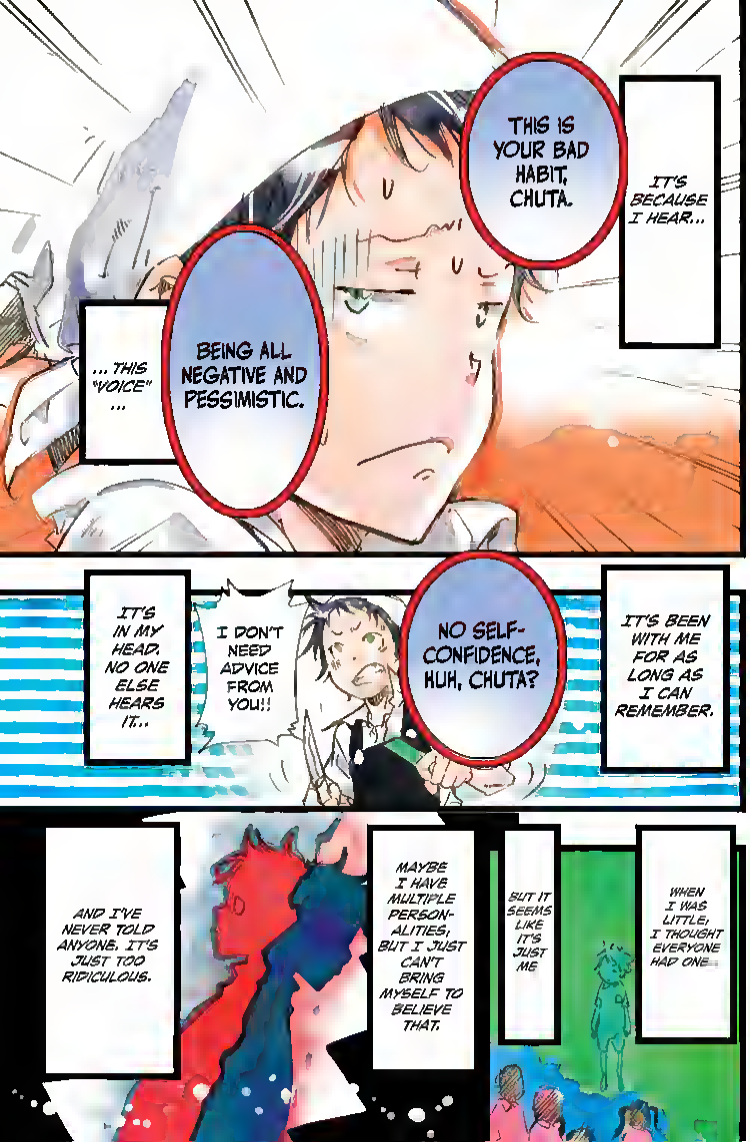
HEY, KOKONOSE... STOP IGNORING YOUR TEACHER.
...FRESHLY LAUNDERED CLOTHES.
PERSON-ALLY, I LOVE THE SMELL OF WARM, DRY.
JUST WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?

SOR...
SORRY!!
I AM
CLATTER
STOP TALKING TO YOURSELF ALREADY !!
HEY, KOKO-NOSE !!!
HOME ECONOMICS ROOM
SNICKER
SNORT
GOOD OL' MURMURING CHUTA!
FART
HA HA HA
REMEMBER THE LAST SCHOOL ASSEMBLY? THE PRINCIPAL WAS SPEAKING, AND YOU SAID...
—"AT LEAST WE CAN GO HOME ONCE THIS SPEECH IS OVER." RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM!
CUT IT OUT.
IGNORING TAKEGAWA IN SOCIAL STUDIES AND GETTING LOST IN YOUR OWN WORLD? THAT'S NOT NORMAL.
I REALLY DIDN'T NOTICE HIM.
I-IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
THE YEAR JUST STARTED AND YOU'RE ALREADY MAKING TROUBLE, HUH?
...
HEH HEH HEY, MISUZU, THAT KOKONOSE SURE IS A WEIRDO, HUH?

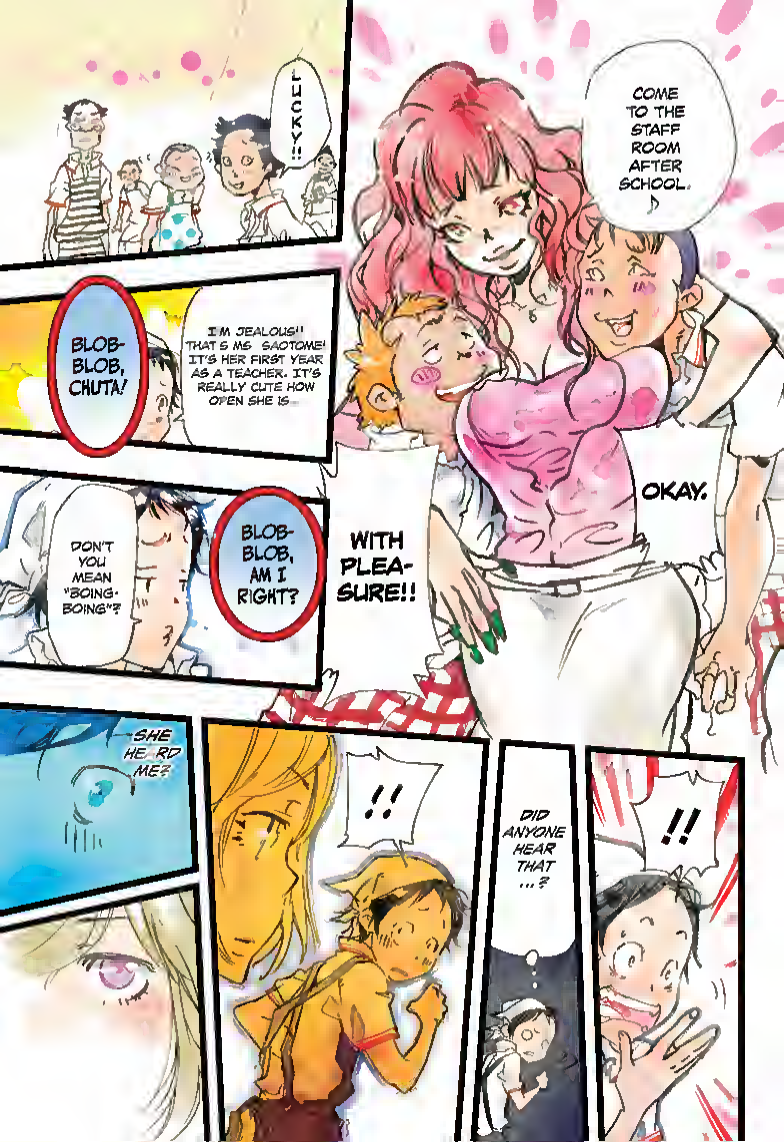
!!
ドキン
DOKI
PROBABLY EVEN HER PERSONALITY'S CUTE TOO.
NEVER EVEN SAID TWO WORDS TO HER, BUT..
トントントントン
TON TON TON TON
'MAN. MISUZU SONOKATA SURE IS CUTE.
クルッ
SPIN
ドクン
DOKU
S-STOP EXAGGERATING...
THIS IS PROFESSIONAL-GRADE!!
WOW. SUPER-SONIC SLICING!!
EH.
HOLY COW!!
トン
TON
NO WONDER, WITH ALL THOSE CHORES YOU DO— YOU'RE THE HOME-EC DEMON!
SHIKI
SHIKI
HUH?
WE'RE NOT! THAT WAS FOUR TIMES FASTER THAN THE AVERAGE BOY!

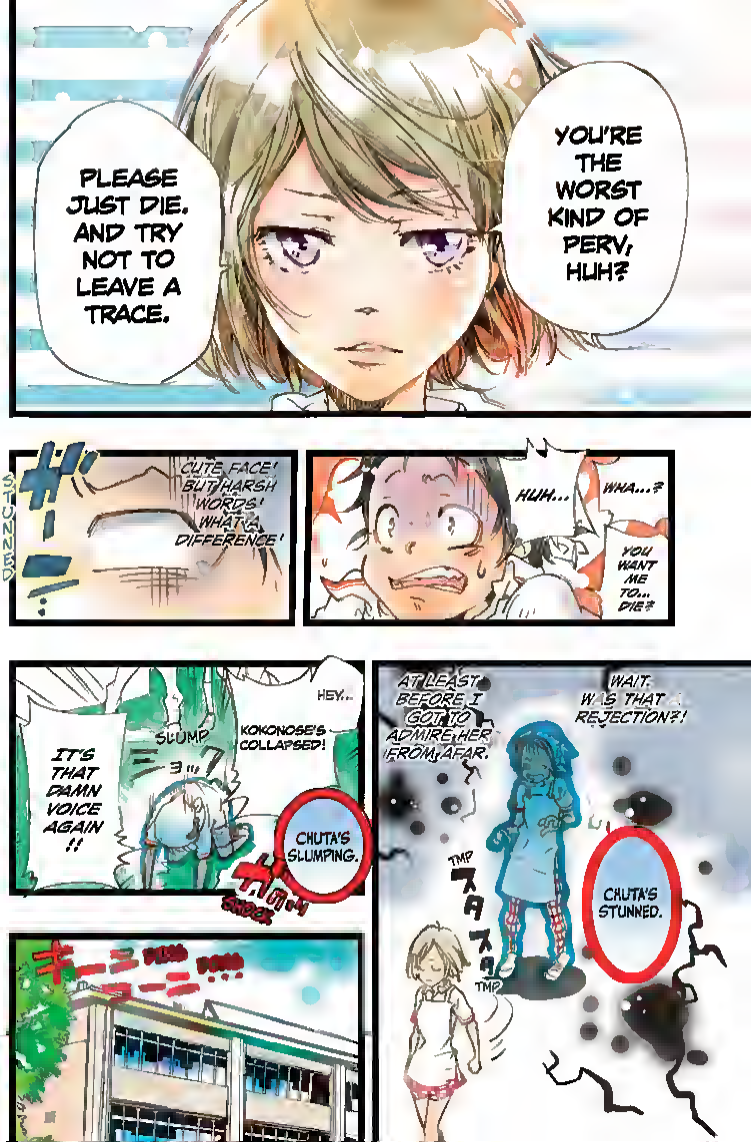

WE'VE NOTICED HOW GOOD YOU ARE, AND WE'VE GOT A REQUEST.
THE COOKING CLUB IS ABOUT TO ENTER A CONTEST, SO HOW ABOUT JOINING THE CLUB?
UM, KOKO-NOSE.
M-ME? NAW...
SO HOW ABOUT DOING MINE FOR ME?
HUH?
ME? JOIN THE CLUB?
THAT'S NOT IT!!
!!
AW, HE REFUSED. NO WONDER HE HAS NO FRIENDS, ACTING LIKE THAT.
UM...
I DON'T THINK SO.
S-SORRY, BUT...

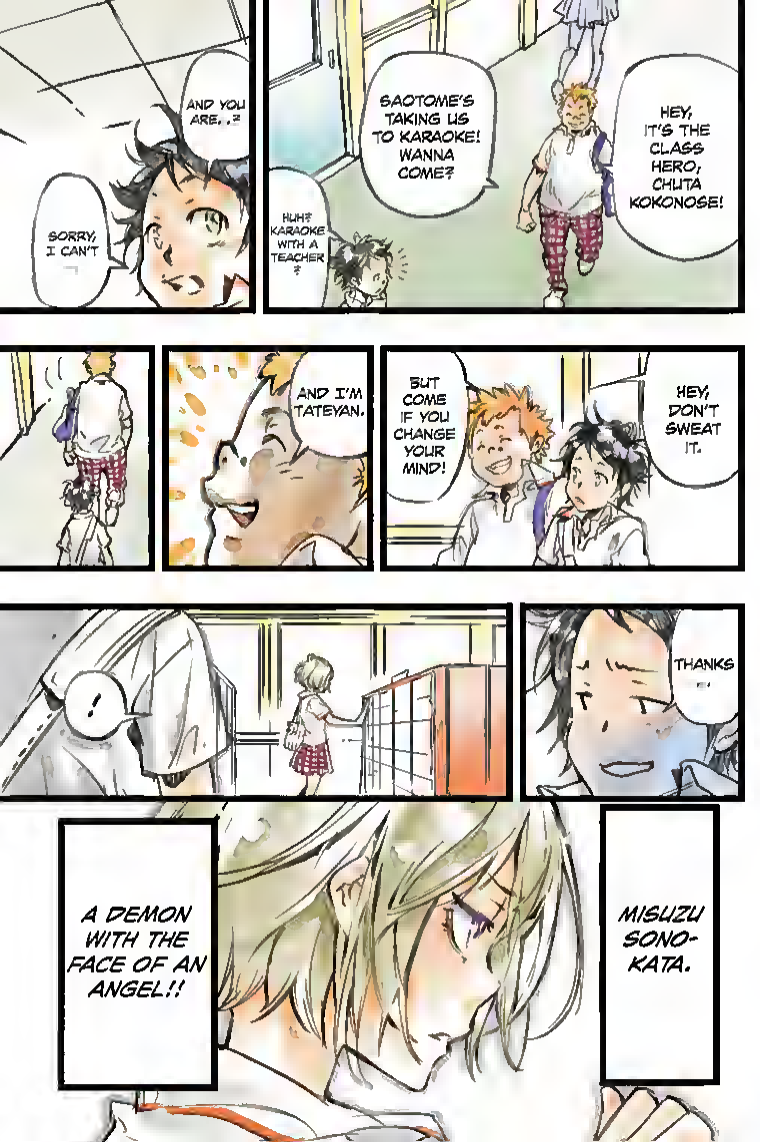

STUNNED
WHAT?
HUH?
I'M NOT JUST PRE-TENDING TO BE ALOOF!
!!
AND I'VE GOTTA HELP AUNTIE WITH CHORES!
I REALLY DON'T WANNA DO IT!
IT'S NOT THAT I LIKE TALKING TO MYSELF OR ANYTHING.
THERE'S A REASON I GO ALL SPACEY AND STOP LISTENING TO PEOPLE.
KINDA SCARY WIT-NESSING IT UP CLOSE.
HE'S... TALKING TO HIM-SELF?
ACK.
NOT AGAIN!

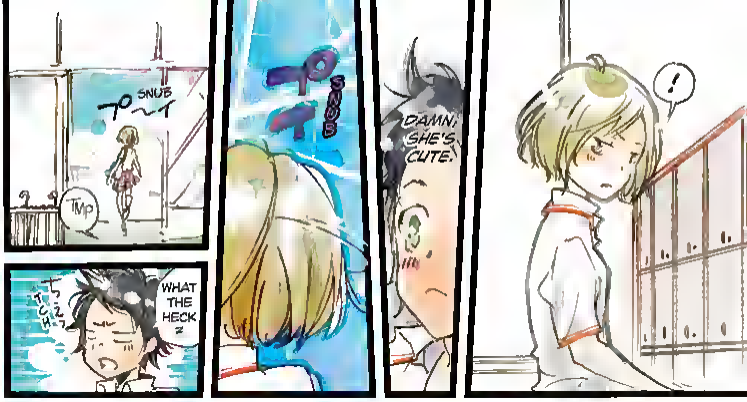

THIS IS YOUR BAD HABIT, CHUTA.
IT'S BECAUSE I HEAR...
... THIS "VOICE" ...
BEING ALL NEGATIVE AND PESSIMISTIC.
IT'S IN MY HEAD. NO ONE ELSE HEARS IT..
I DON'T NEED ADVICE FROM YOU!!
NO SELF-CONFIDENCE, HUH, CHUTA?
IT'S BEEN WITH ME FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER.
AND I'VE NEVER TOLD ANYONE, IT'S JUST TOO RIDICULOUS.
MAYBE I HAVE MULTIPLE PERSONALITIES, BUT I JUST CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO BELIEVE THAT.
BUT IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S JUST ME
WHEN I WAS LITTLE, I THOUGHT EVERYONE HAD ONE.

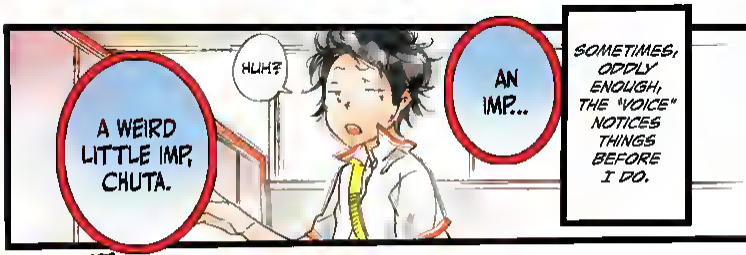
SO YEAH, I'VE GOT PROBLEMS...
I'M ALWAYS MISSING IMPORTANT THINGS, TALKING TO MYSELF, ALMOST GETTING INTO ACCIDENTS. AND EVERYONE TREATS ME LIKE A WEIRDO.
BUT SOMETIMES I WIND UP GETTING OTHERS IN TROUBLE...
SHUT UP, YOU.
THIS IS WHY YOU HAVE NO FRIENDS.
WOULDN'T BE TOO BAD IF THAT WERE ALL...
CHOP
CHOP
IN THE MIDDLE OF CLASS! REALLY!
OW OW OW!
TATEYAN, UCHIDA. YOU TWO'VE GOT SOME NERVE.
WRESTLING EACH OTHER WHILE THE TEACHER'S AWAY?
I JUST WISH I COULD STAY OUT OF EVERYONE'S WAY. JUST BE LIKE AIR...

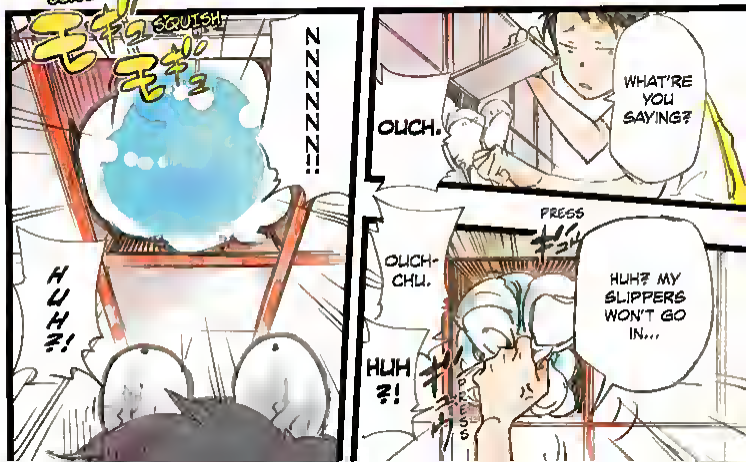

LUCKY!!
COME TO THE STAFF ROOM AFTER SCHOOL. ♪
I'M JEALOUS!! THAT'S MS. SAOTOME! IT'S HER FIRST YEAR AS A TEACHER. IT'S REALLY CUTE HOW OPEN SHE IS...
BLOB-BLOB, CHUTA!
OKAY.
WITH PLEA-SURE!!
BLOB-BLOB, AM I RIGHT?
DON'T YOU MEAN "BOING-BOING"?
SHE HEARD ME?
!!
DID ANYONE HEAR THAT ...?
!!

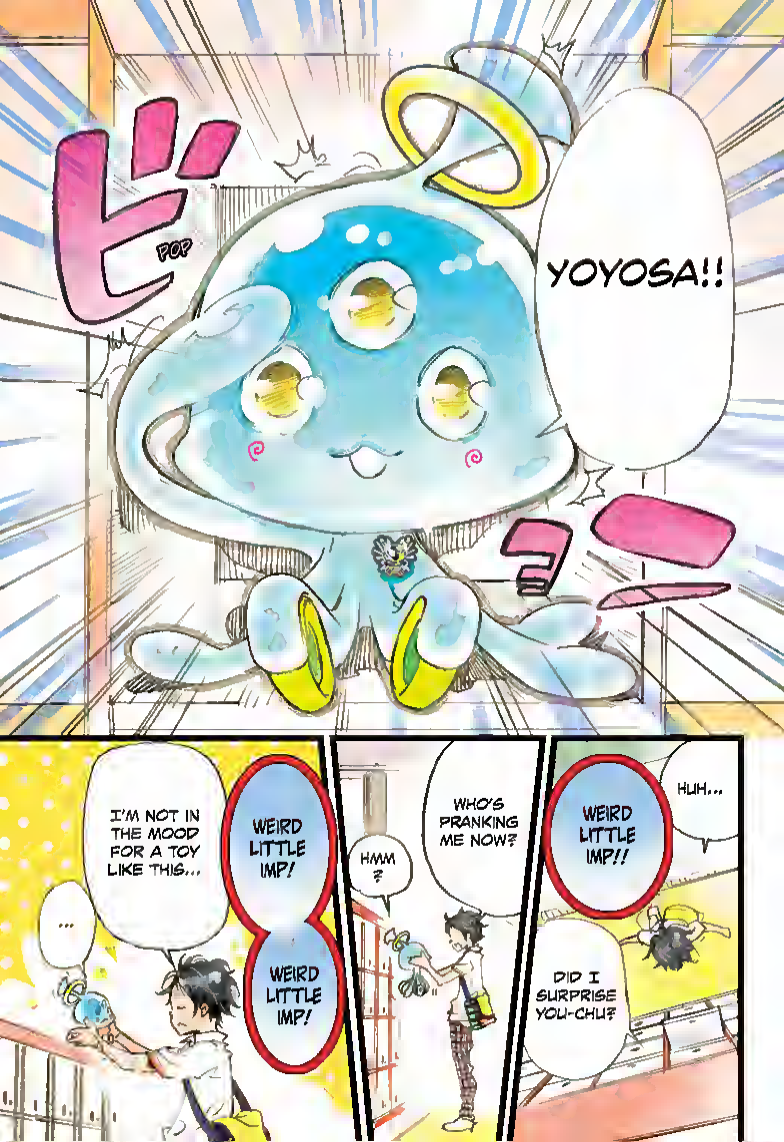

YOU'RE THE WORST KIND OF PERV, HUH?
PLEASE JUST DIE. AND TRY NOT TO LEAVE A TRACE.
CUTE FACE! BUT HARSH WORDS! WHAT A DIFFERENCE!
SHIZURU
HUH...
WHA...?
YOU WANT ME TO... DIE?
HEY..
SLUMP
KOKONOSE'S COLLAPSED!
IT'S THAT DAMN VOICE AGAIN !!
CHUTA'S SLUMPING.
SHOCK
AT LEAST BEFORE I GOT TO ADMIRE HER FROM AFAR.
WAIT. WAS THAT REJECTION?!
TMP
TMP
CHUTA'S STUNNED.
PIPI PIPI

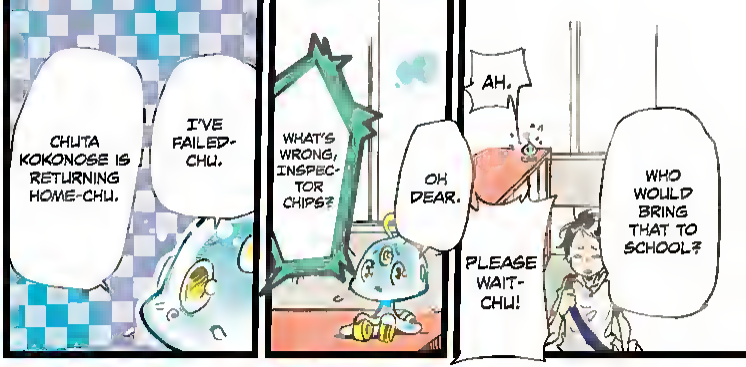

AND YOU ARE, ..?
SORRY, I CAN'T
SAOTOME'S TAKING US TO KARAOKE! WANNA COME?
HUH? KARAOKE WITH A TEACHER ?
HEY, IT'S THE CLASS HERO, CHUTA KOKONOSE!
AND I'M TATEYAN.
BUT COME IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND!
HEY, DON'T SWEAT IT.
!
THANKS
A DEMON WITH THE FACE OF AN ANGEL!!
MISUZU SONO-KATA.

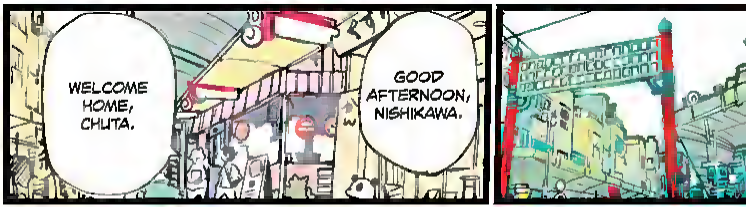

SNUB
TMP
WHAT THE HECK?
SIGH
DAMN, SHE'S CUTE.
!

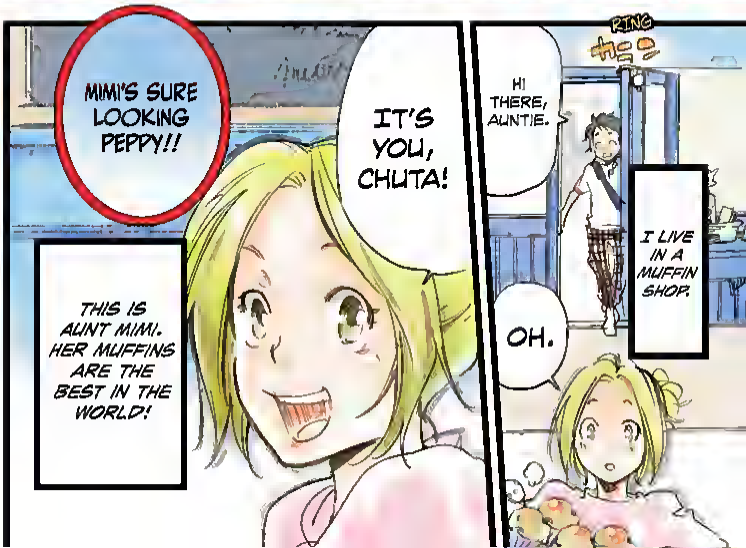

A WEIRD LITTLE IMP, CHUTA.
HUH?
AN IMP...
SOMETIMES, ODDLY ENOUGH, THE "VOICE" NOTICES THINGS BEFORE I DO.

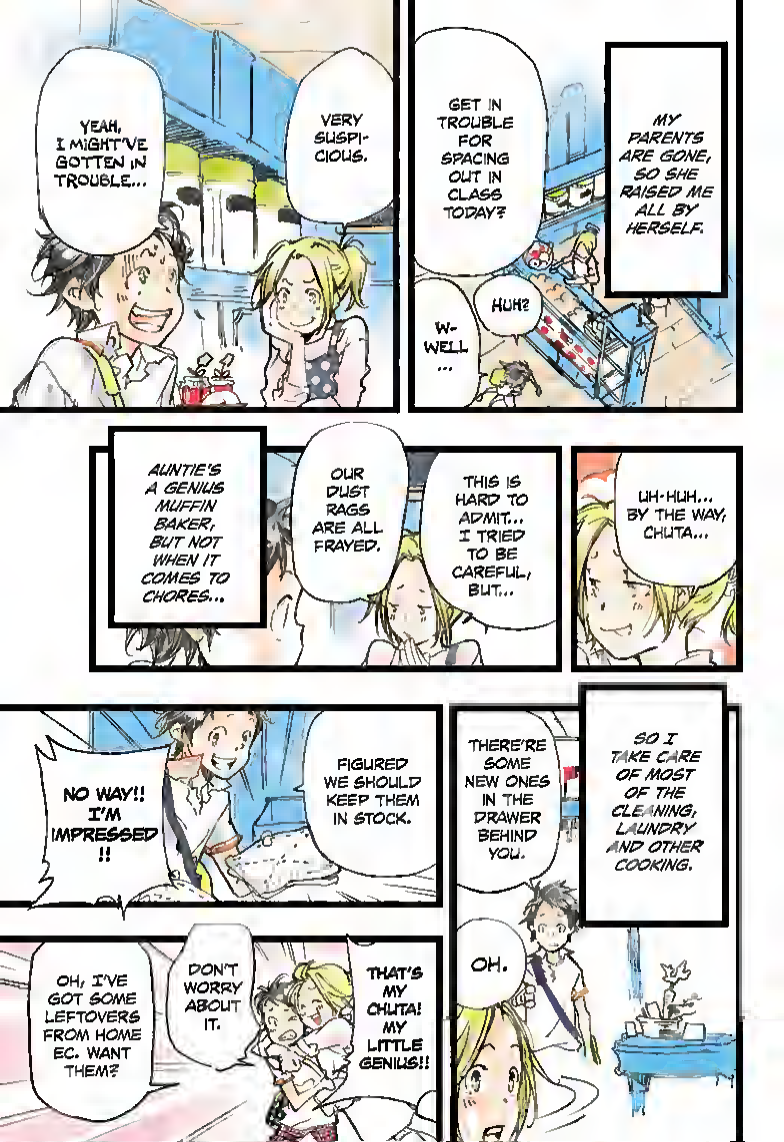

SQUISH
SQUISH
NNNNNN!!
HUH?!
OUCH.
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?
PRESS
OUCH-CHU.
HUH?!
HUH? MY SLIPPERS WON'T GO IN...


ビ
POP
YOYOSA!!
I'M NOT IN THE MOOD FOR A TOY LIKE THIS...
...
WEIRD LITTLE IMP!
WEIRD LITTLE IMP!
HMM ?
WHO'S PRANKING ME NOW?
WEIRD LITTLE IMP!!
HUH...
DID I SURPRISE YOU-CHU?

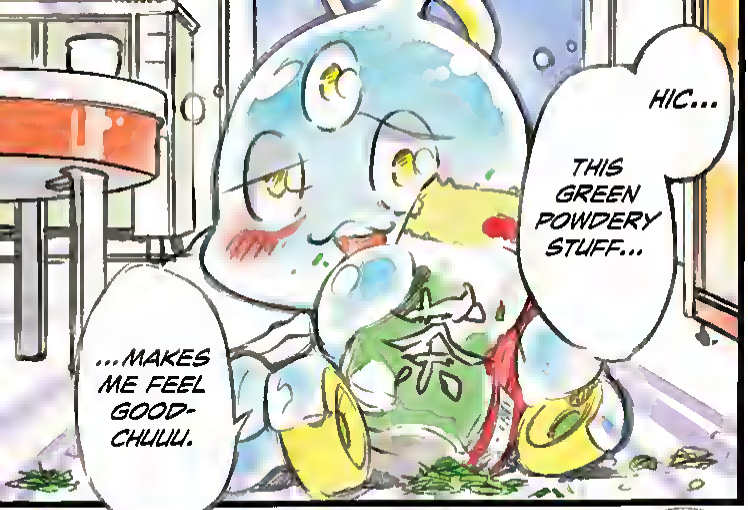

CHUTA KOKONOSE IS RETURNING HOME-CHU.
I'VE FAILED-CHU.
WHAT'S WRONG, INSPECTOR CHIPS?
OH DEAR.
AH.
WHO WOULD BRING THAT TO SCHOOL?
PLEASE WAIT-CHU!

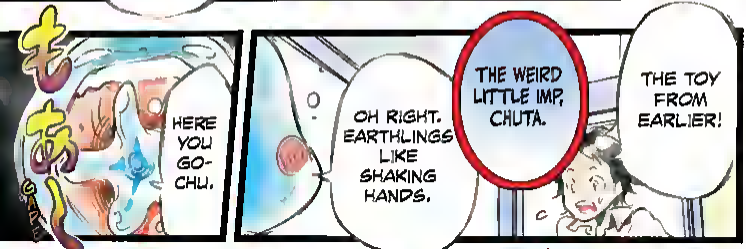

WELCOME HOME, CHUTA.
GOOD AFTERNOON, NISHIKAWA.

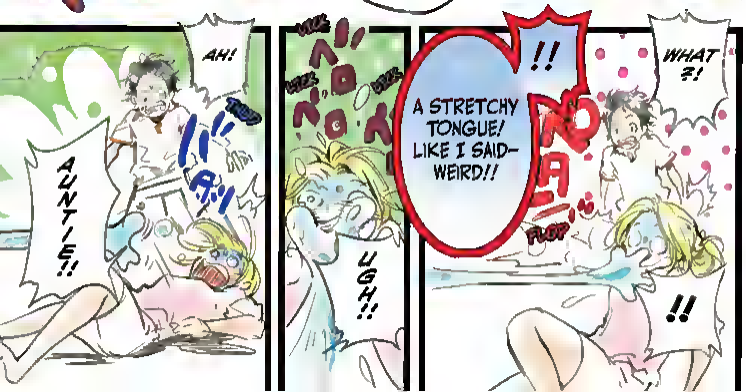

MIMI'S SURE LOOKING PEPPY!!
IT'S YOU, CHUTA!
THIS IS AUNT MIMI. HER MUFFINS ARE THE BEST IN THE WORLD!
RING
HI THERE, AUNTIE.
I LIVE IN A MUFFIN SHOP.
OH.

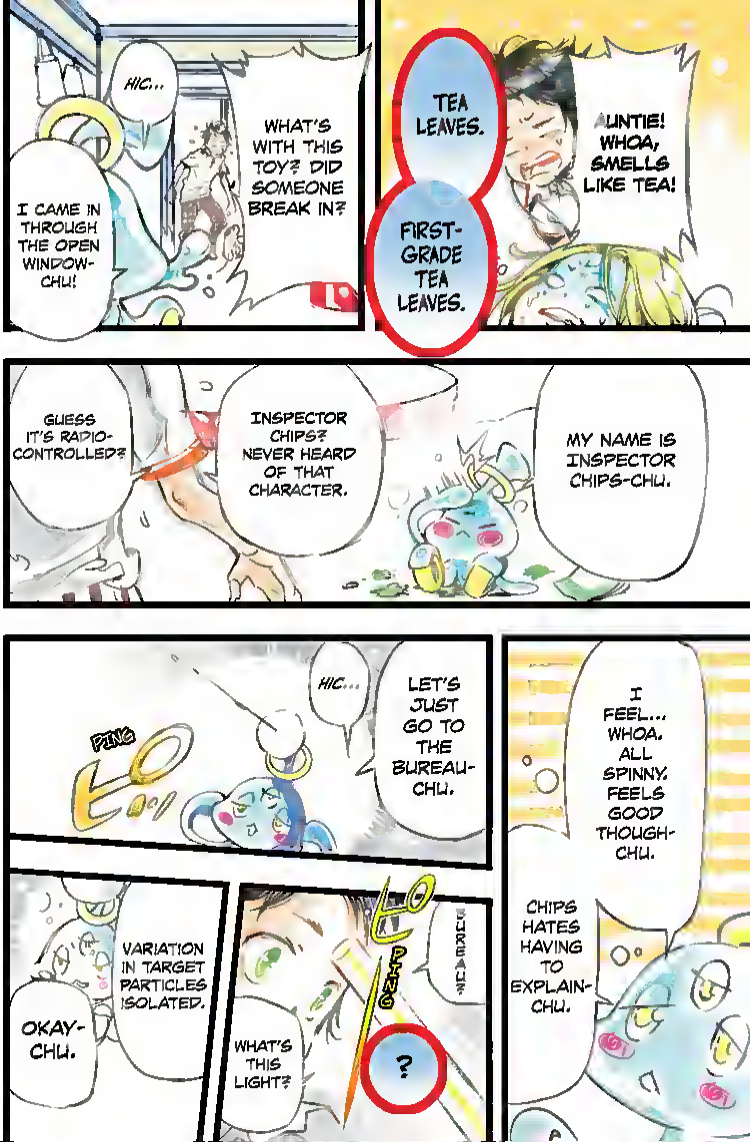

YEAH, I MIGHT'VE GOTTEN IN TROUBLE...
VERY SUSPICIOUS.
GET IN TROUBLE FOR SPACING OUT IN CLASS TODAY?
MY PARENTS ARE GONE, SO SHE RAISED ME ALL BY HERSELF.
HUH?
W-WELL ...
AUNTIE'S A GENIUS MUFFIN BAKER, BUT NOT WHEN IT COMES TO CHORES...
OUR DUST RAGS ARE ALL FRAYED.
THIS IS HARD TO ADMIT... I TRIED TO BE CAREFUL, BUT...
UH-HUH... BY THE WAY, CHUTA...
NO WAY!! I'M IMPRESSED !!
FIGURED WE SHOULD KEEP THEM IN STOCK.
THERE'RE SOME NEW ONES IN THE DRAWER BEHIND YOU.
SO I TAKE CARE OF MOST OF THE CLEANING, LAUNDRY AND OTHER COOKING.
OH.
OH, I'VE GOT SOME LEFTOVERS FROM HOME EC. WANT THEM?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
THAT'S MY CHUTA! MY LITTLE GENIUS!!

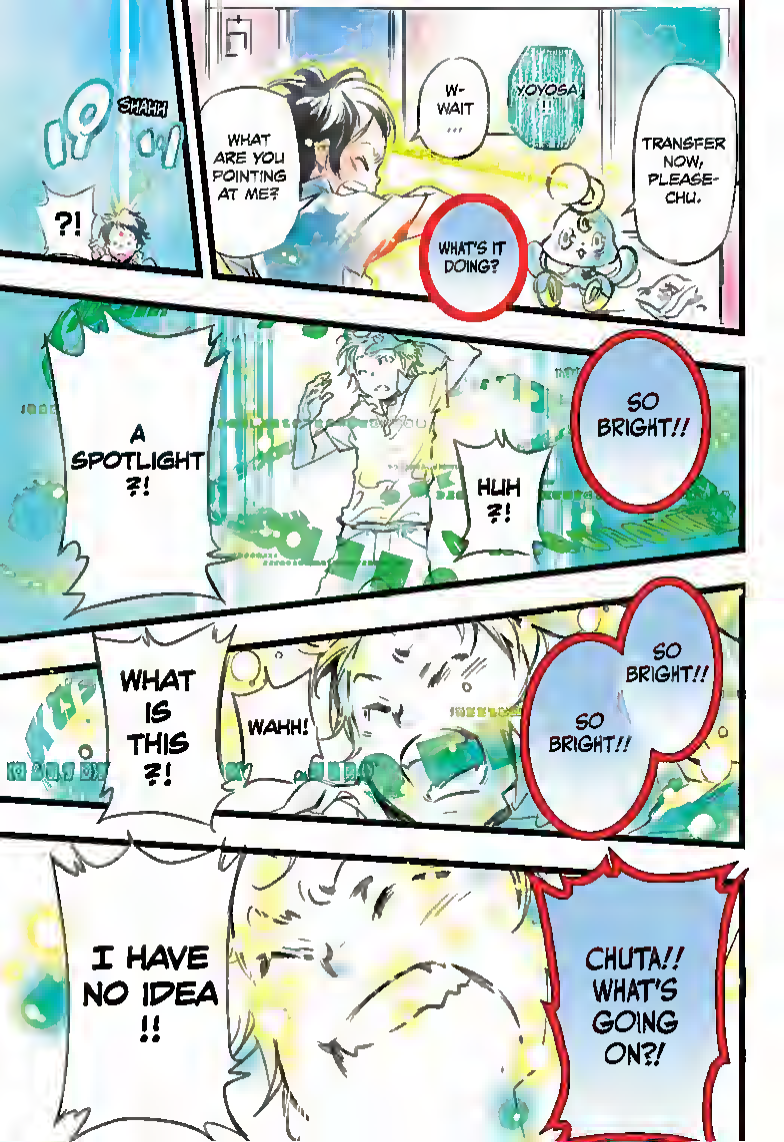
NICE GOING, CHUTA.
HA HA ...
YOU'RE THE BEST, CHUTA! LOVE YA!!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE SHOP.
GO ON AND EAT UPSTAIRS.
TODAY WAS BUSY, SO I DIDN'T EAT LUNCH.
WOO-HOO! THANKS !!
EEEEK!!!
IT WAS NOTHING, REALLY..
GOOD BOY.
MIMI SURE IS HAPPY.
DUNNO WHY THIS "VOICE" ALWAYS TALKS DOWN TO ME.
WEIRDER ...?
SOME-THING WEIRD-ER!!
AH...
WHAT'S WRONG?
SOME SORT OF BUG?!
W-WHAT? WHAT...
THAT WAS AUNTIE'S VOICE!!

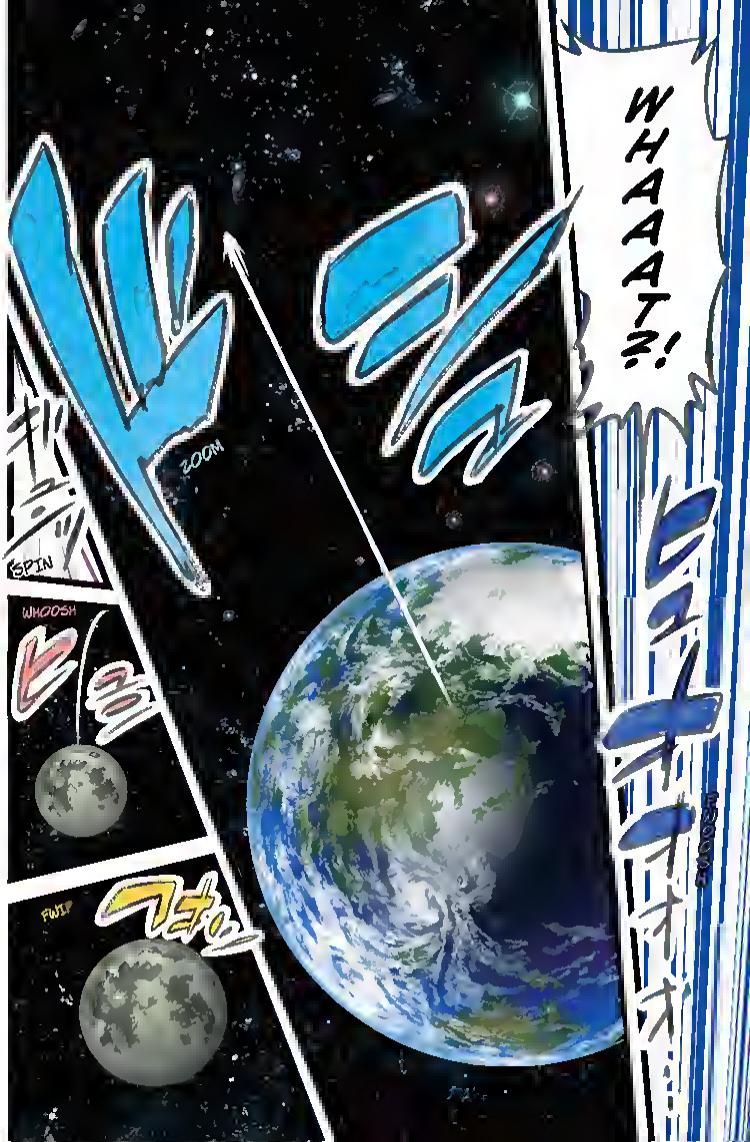

HIC...
THIS GREEN POWDERY STUFF...
...MAKES ME FEEL GOOD-CHUUUU.

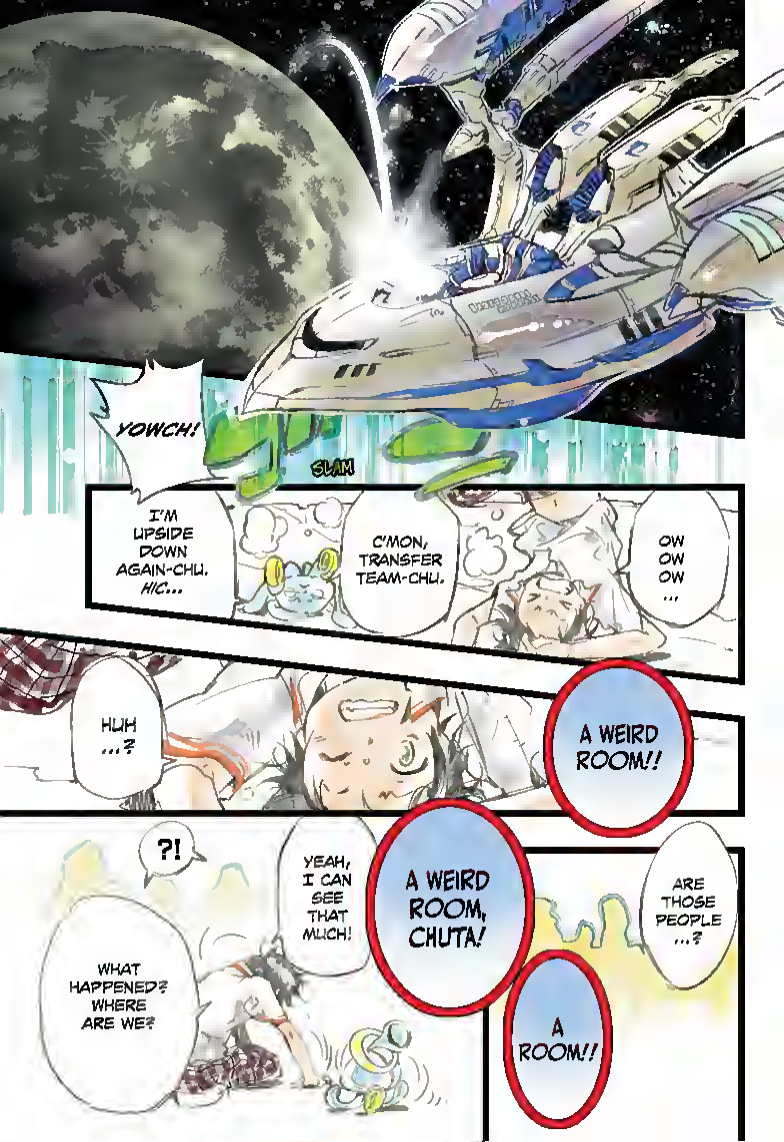

HERE YOU GO-CHU.
OH RIGHT. EARTHLINGS LIKE SHAKING HANDS.
THE WEIRD LITTLE IMP, CHUTA.
THE TOY FROM EARLIER!

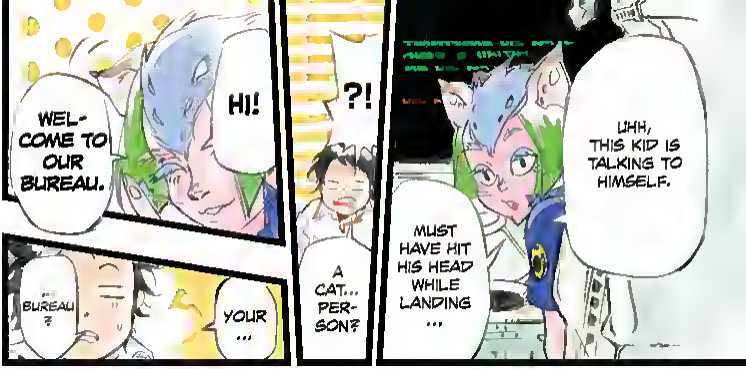

AH!
AUNTIE!!
UGH!!
!!
A STRETCHY TONGUE! LIKE I SAID-WEIRD!!
WHAT?!
!!

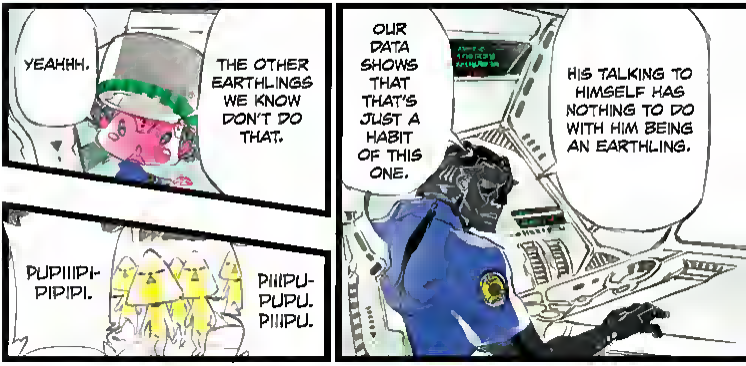

HIC...
I CAME IN THROUGH THE OPEN WINDOW-CHU!
WHAT'S WITH THIS TOY? DID SOMEONE BREAK IN?
TEA LEAVES.
FIRST-GRADE TEA LEAVES.
AUNTIE! WHOA, SMELLS LIKE TEA!
GUESS IT'S RADIO-CONTROLLED?
INSPECTOR CHIPS? NEVER HEARD OF THAT CHARACTER.
MY NAME IS INSPECTOR CHIPS-CHU.
PING
HIC...
LET'S JUST GO TO THE BUREAU-CHU.
I FEEL... WHOA. ALL SPINNY. FEELS GOOD THOUGH-CHU.
CHIPS HATES HAVING TO EXPLAIN-CHU.
OKAY-CHU.
VARIATION IN TARGET PARTICLES ISOLATED.
WHAT'S THIS LIGHT?
PING
?
SURROUND.

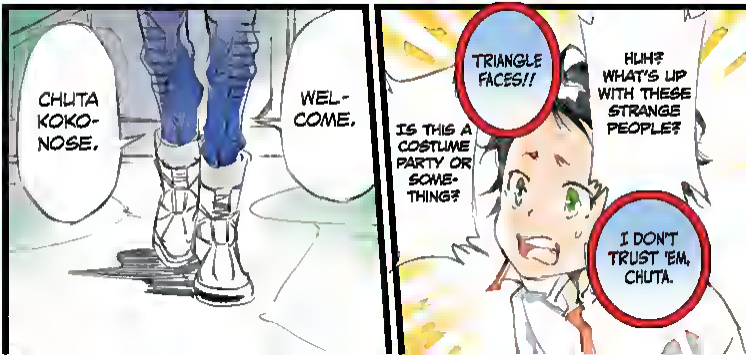

SHAHH
?!
WHAT ARE YOU POINTING AT ME?
W-WAIT ...
YOYOSA!!
TRANSFER NOW, PLEASE-CHU.
WHAT'S IT DOING?
A SPOTLIGHT ?!
HUH ?!
SO BRIGHT!!
WHAT IS THIS ?!
WAHH!
SO BRIGHT!!
SO BRIGHT!!
I HAVE NO IDEA !!
CHUTA!! WHAT'S GOING ON?!

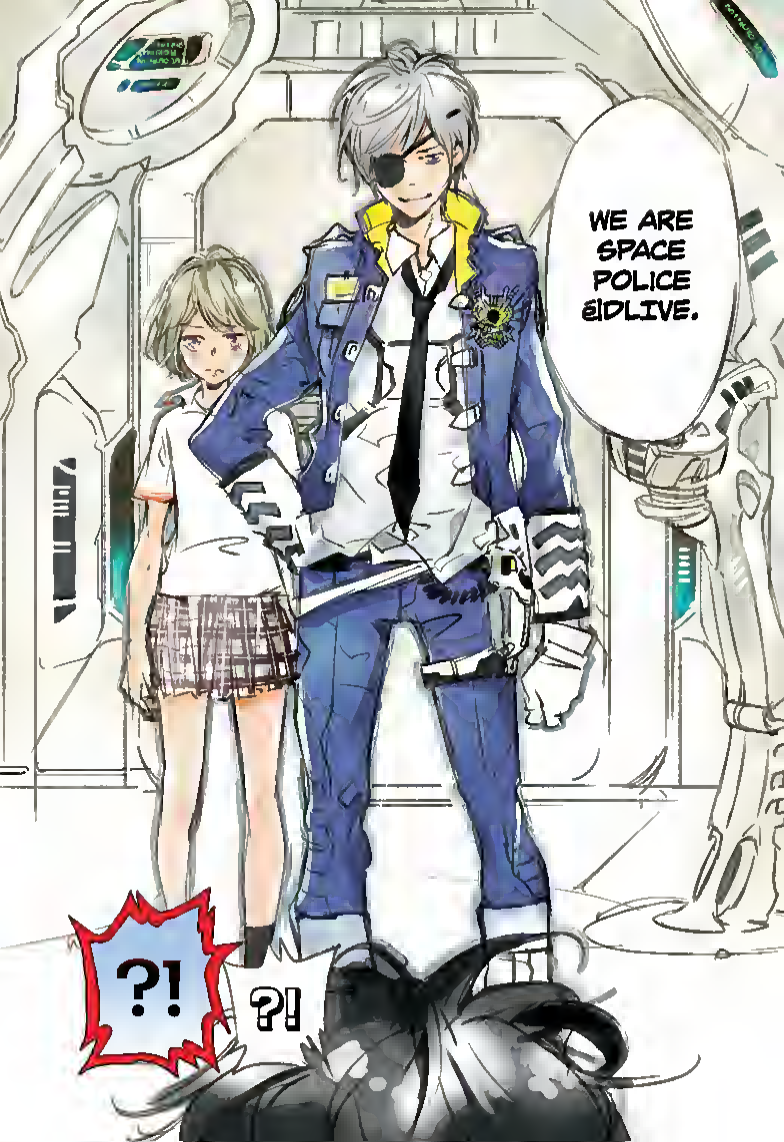

WHAAAAT?!
ZOOM
SPIN
WHOOSH
FWIP

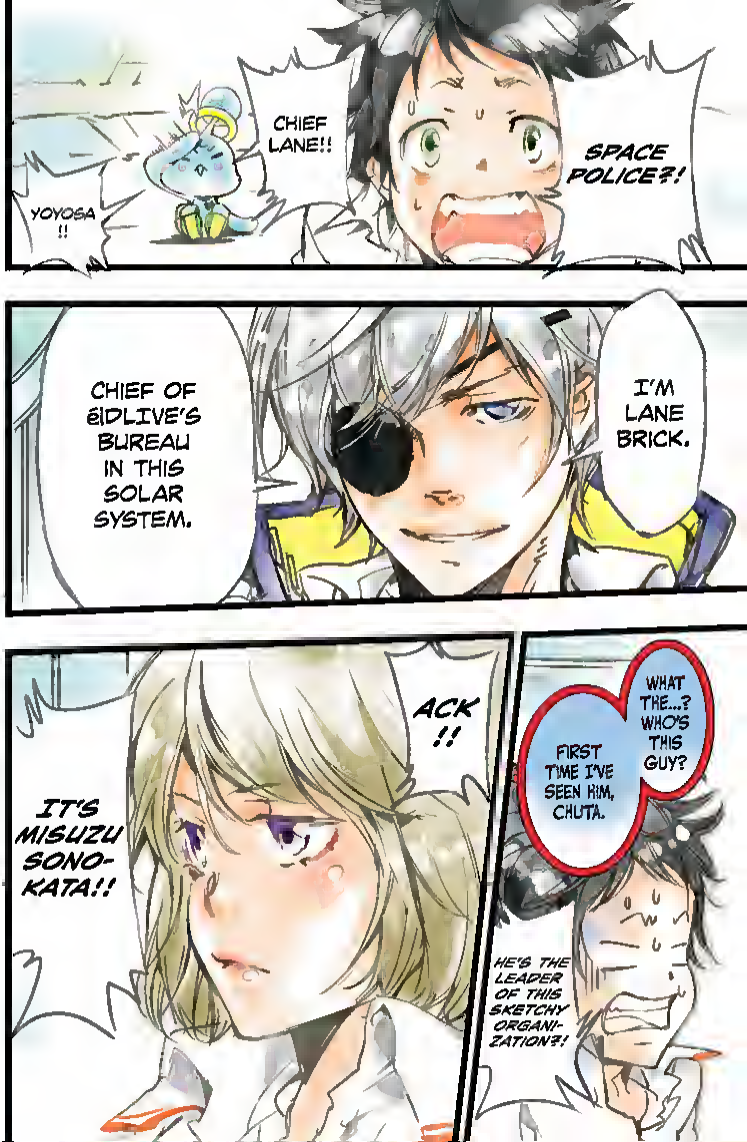

YOWCH!
SLAM
I'M UPSIDE DOWN AGAIN-CHU. HIC...
C'MON, TRANSFER TEAM-CHU.
OW OW OW ...
HUH ...?
A WEIRD ROOM!!
?!
WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE ARE WE?
YEAH, I CAN SEE THAT MUCH!
A WEIRD ROOM, CHUTA!
A ROOM!!
ARE THOSE PEOPLE ...?

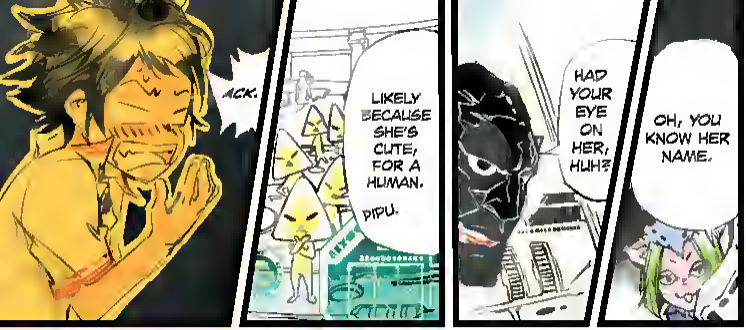

WEL-COME TO OUR BUREAU.
HI!
?!
A CAT... PER-SON?
MUST HAVE HIT HIS HEAD WHILE LANDING ...
UHH, THIS KID IS TALKING TO HIMSELF.
... BUREAU ?
YOUR ...

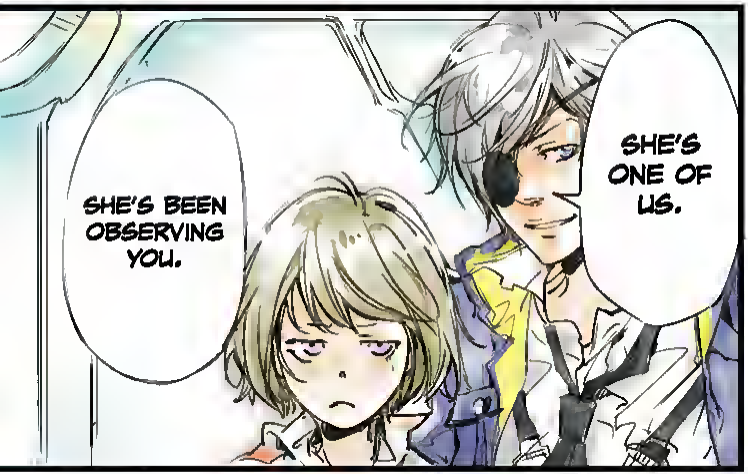

YEAHHH.
THE OTHER EARTHLINGS WE KNOW DON'T DO THAT.
OUR DATA SHOWS THAT THAT'S JUST A HABIT OF THIS ONE.
HIS TALKING TO HIMSELF HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HIM BEING AN EARTHLING.
PUPIIIPI-PIPIPI.
PIIIPU-PUPU. PIIIPU.

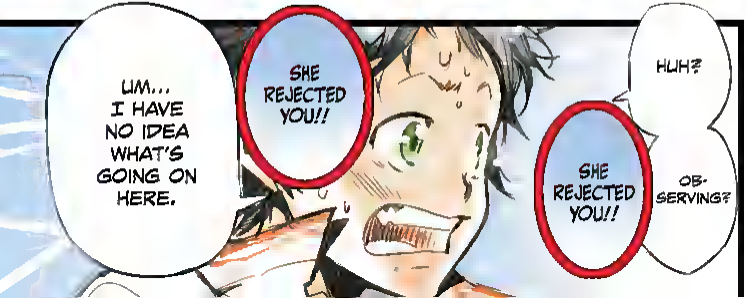

CHUTA KOKO-NOSE.
WEL-COME.
TRIANGLE FACES!!
HUH? WHAT'S UP WITH THESE STRANGE PEOPLE?
IS THIS A COSTUME PARTY OR SOME-THING?
I DON'T TRUST 'EM, CHUTA.

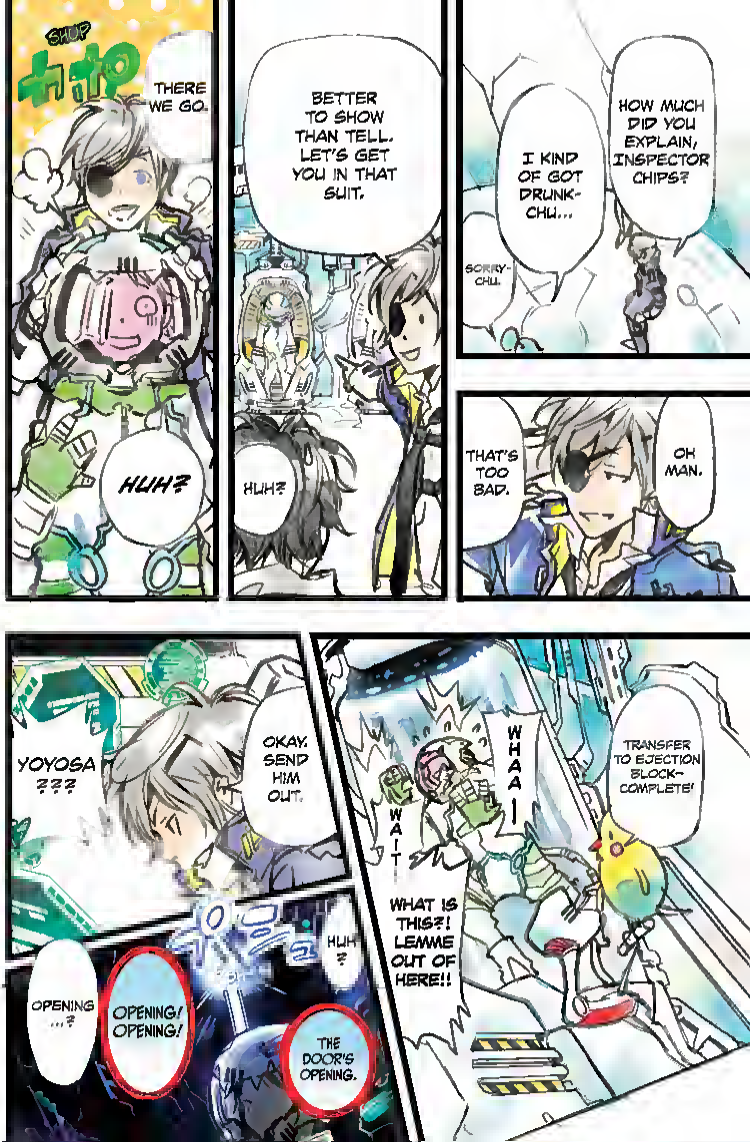

WE ARE SPACE POLICE GIDLIVE.
?!
?!

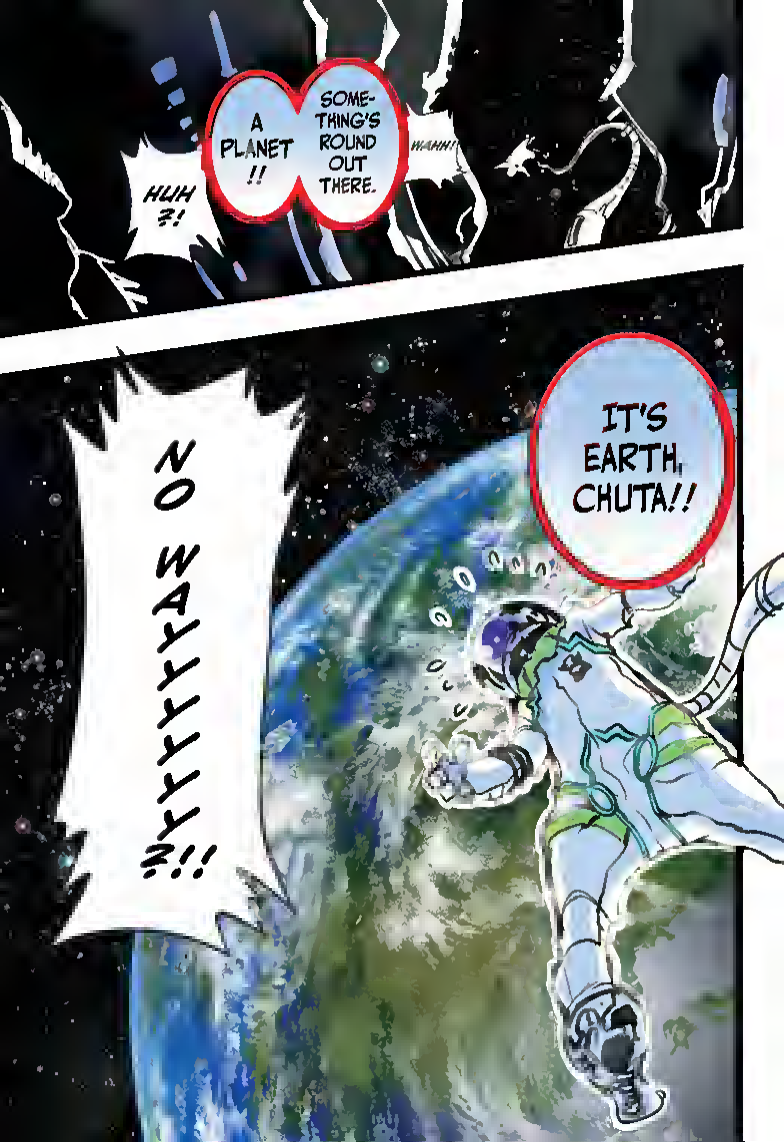

YOYOSA !!
CHIEF LANE!!
SPACE POLICE?!
I'M LANE BRICK.
CHIEF OF EIDLIVE'S BUREAU IN THIS SOLAR SYSTEM.
WHAT THE...? WHO'S THIS GUY?
FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN HIM, CHUTA.
HE'S THE LEADER OF THIS SKETCHY ORGANI-ZATION?!
ACK !!
IT'S MISUZU SONO-KATA!!

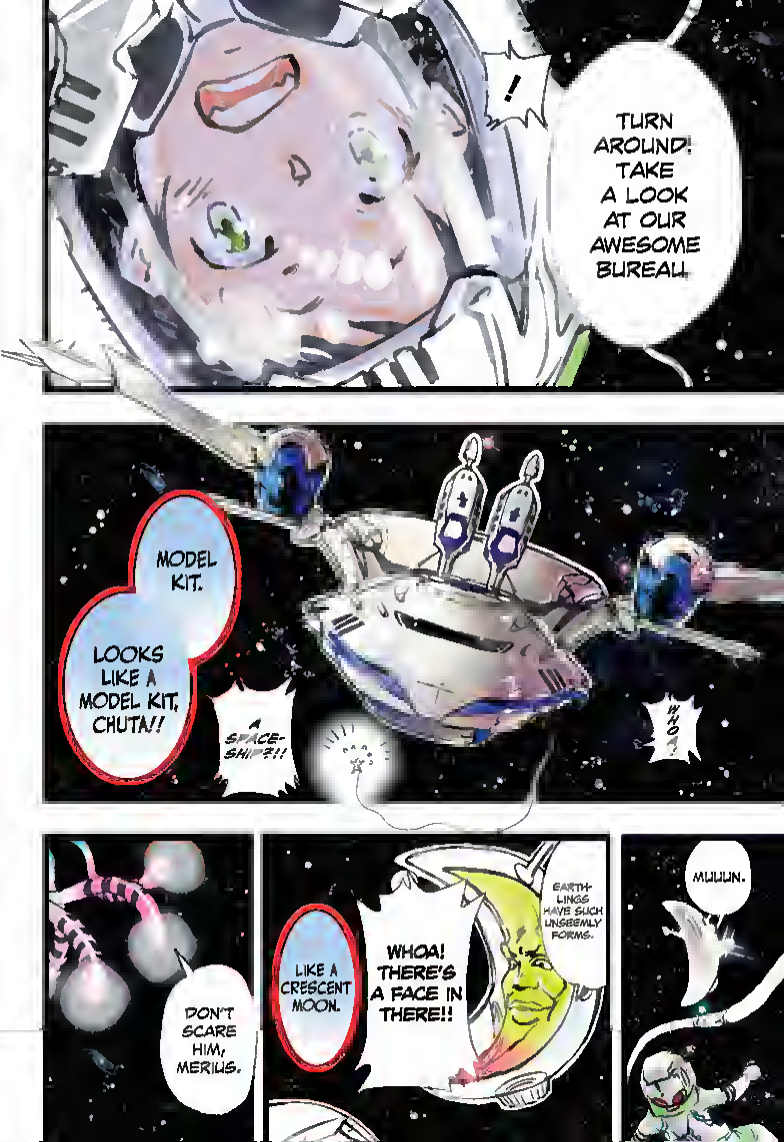

ACK.
LIKELY BECAUSE SHE'S CUTE, FOR A HUMAN.
PIPU.
HAD YOUR EYE ON HER, HUH?
OH, YOU KNOW HER NAME.

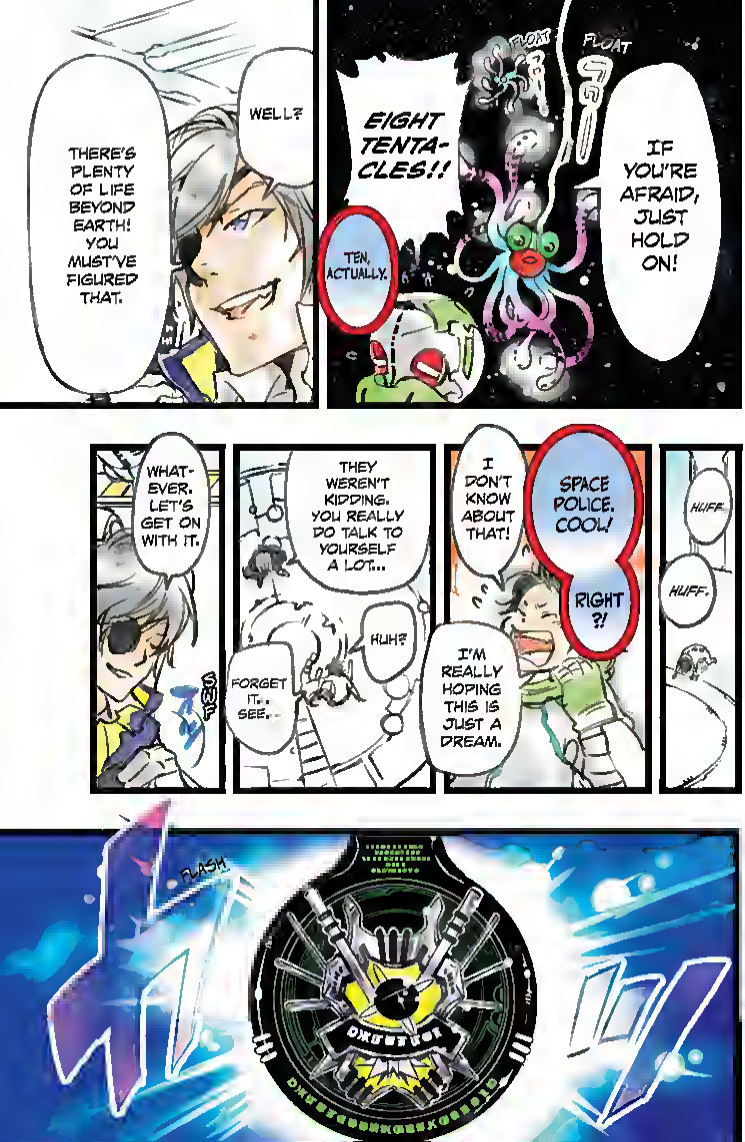

SHE'S BEEN OBSERVING YOU.
SHE'S ONE OF US.


UM... I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.
SHE REJECTED YOU!!
SHE REJECTED YOU!!
HUH?
OB-SERVING?


SHUP
THERE WE GO.
HUH?
BETTER TO SHOW THAN TELL. LET'S GET YOU IN THAT SUIT.
HUH?
HOW MUCH DID YOU EXPLAIN, INSPECTOR CHIPS?
I KIND OF GOT DRUNK-CHU...
SORRY-CHU.
OH MAN.
THAT'S TOO BAD.
YOYOSA ???
OKAY. SEND HIM OUT.
HUH?
OPENING...?
OPENING! OPENING!
THE DOOR'S OPENING.
WAIT!
WHAA—!
WHAT IS THIS?! LEMME OUT OF HERE!!
TRANSFER TO EJECTION BLOCK— COMPLETE!

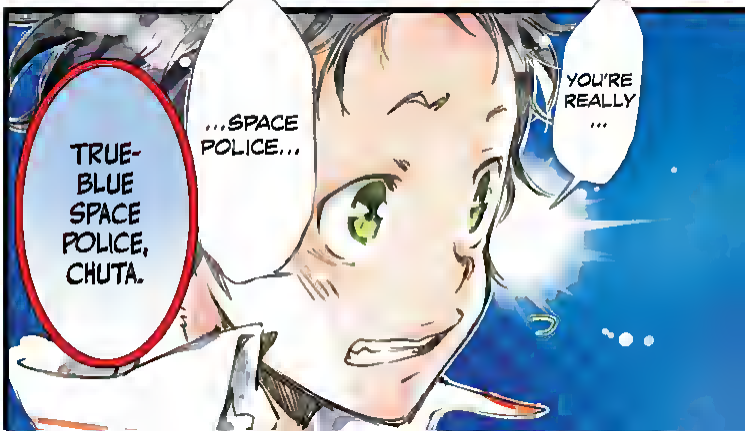

HUH ?!
A PLANET !!
SOME-THING'S ROUND OUT THERE.
WAHH!!
IT'S EARTH, CHUTA!!
NO WAYYYYY?!!

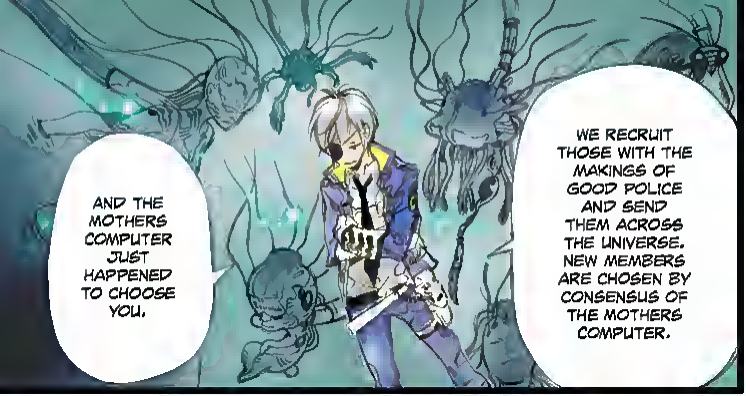

!
TURN AROUND! TAKE A LOOK AT OUR AWESOME BUREAU.
MODEL KIT.
LOOKS LIKE A MODEL KIT, CHUTA!!
A SPACE-SHIP?!!
WHO?
DON'T SCARE HIM, MERIUS.
LIKE A CRESCENT MOON.
WHOA! THERE'S A FACE IN THERE!!
EARTH-LINGS HAVE SUCH UNSEEMLY FORMS.
MUUUN.

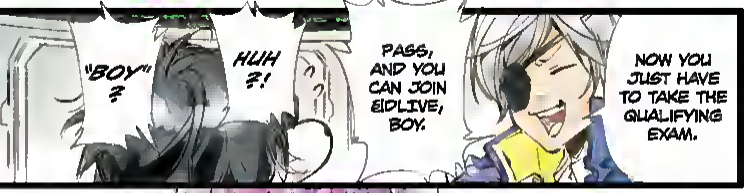

THERE'S PLENTY OF LIFE BEYOND EARTH! YOU MUST'VE FIGURED THAT.
WELL?
EIGHT TENTACLES!!
TEN, ACTUALLY.
FLOAT
FLOAT
IF YOU'RE AFRAID, JUST HOLD ON!
WHATEVER. LET'S GET ON WITH IT.
SIGH
FORGET IT.. SEE..
HUH?
THEY WEREN'T KIDDING. YOU REALLY DO TALK TO YOURSELF A LOT...
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT!
I'M REALLY HOPING THIS IS JUST A DREAM.
SPACE POLICE. COOL!
RIGHT?!
HUFF.
HUFF.
FLASH

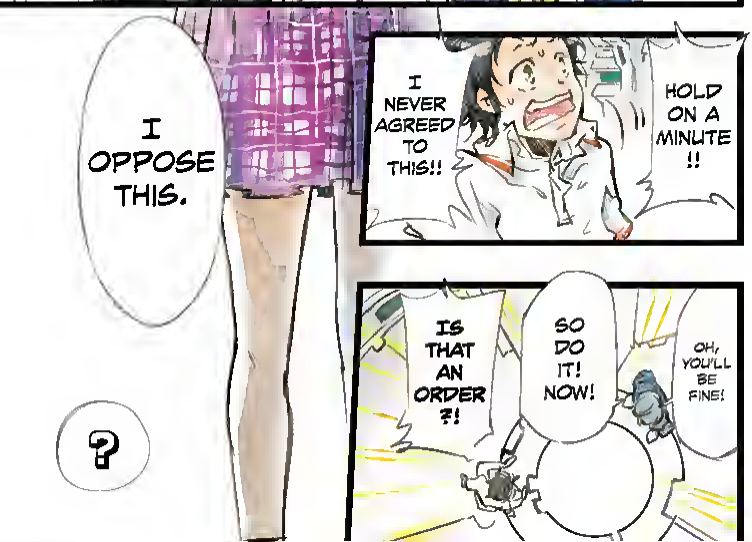
AS SPACE POLICE EIDLIVE, OUR MISSION...
...IS TO PRESERVE PEACE AND STABILITY FOR ALL BEINGS OF THE UNIVERSE.

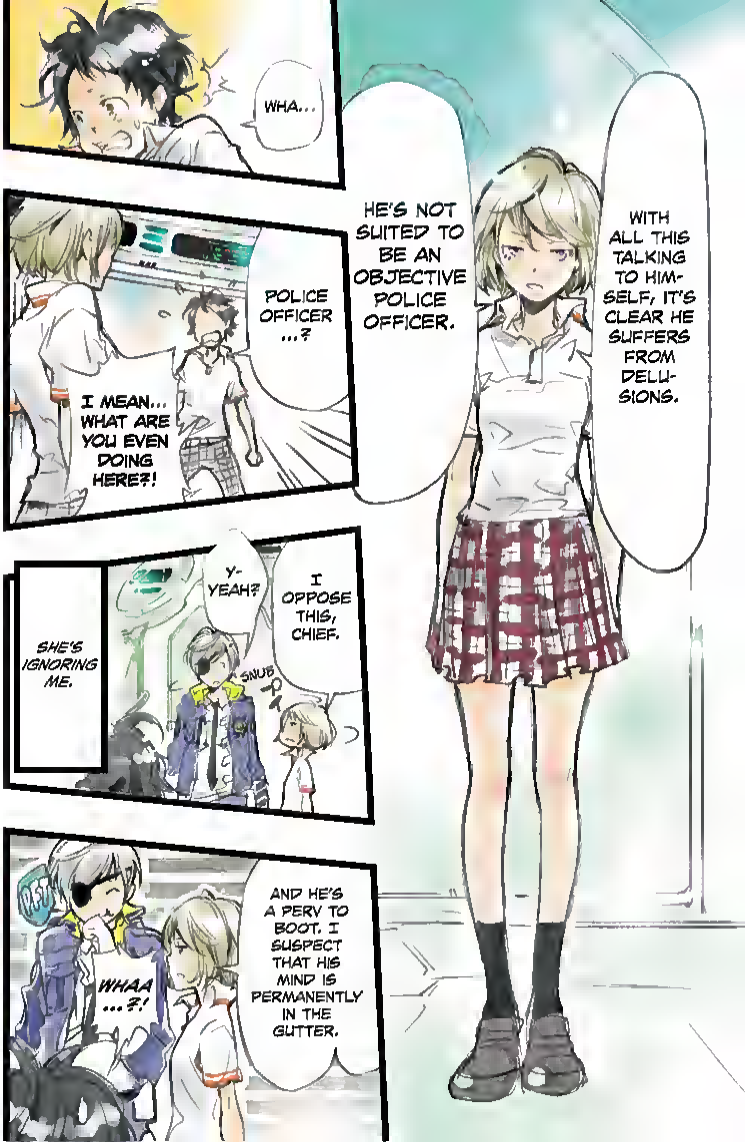
HUH?
THE CHIEF'S SO COOL. ♡
WHAT A CORNBALL SPEECH. IT'S EMBARRASSING.

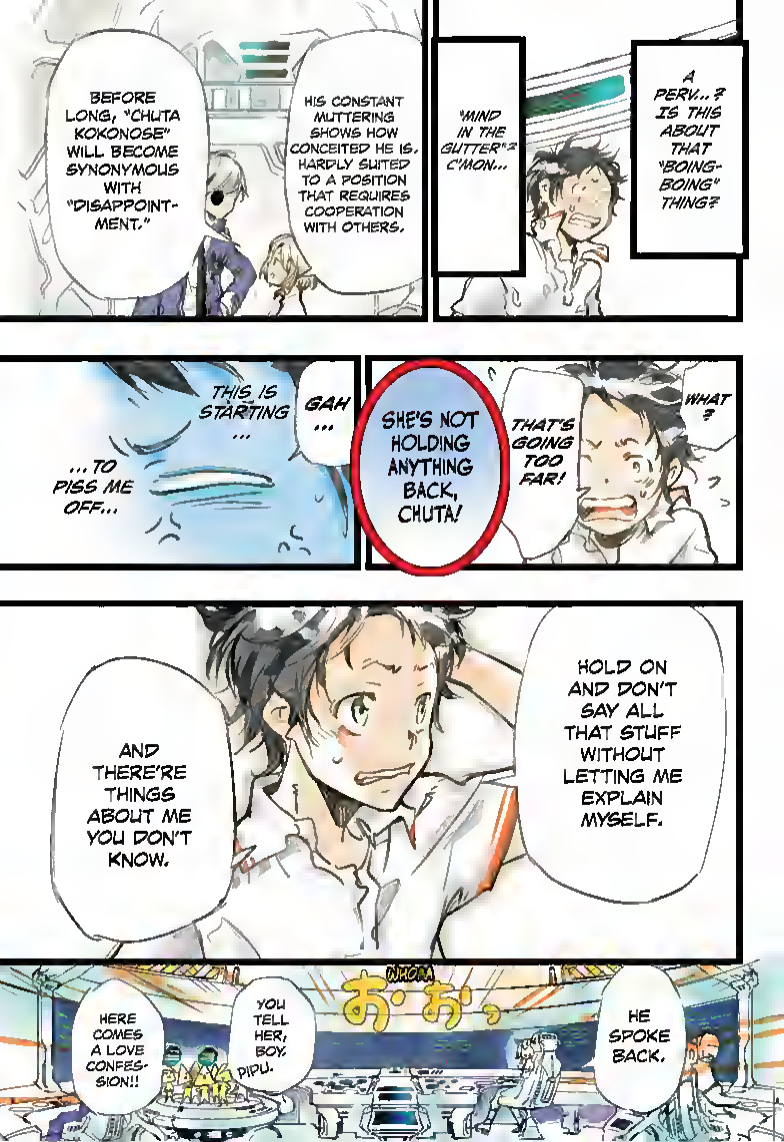

YOU'RE REALLY ...
...SPACE POLICE...
TRUE-BLUE SPACE POLICE, CHUTA.

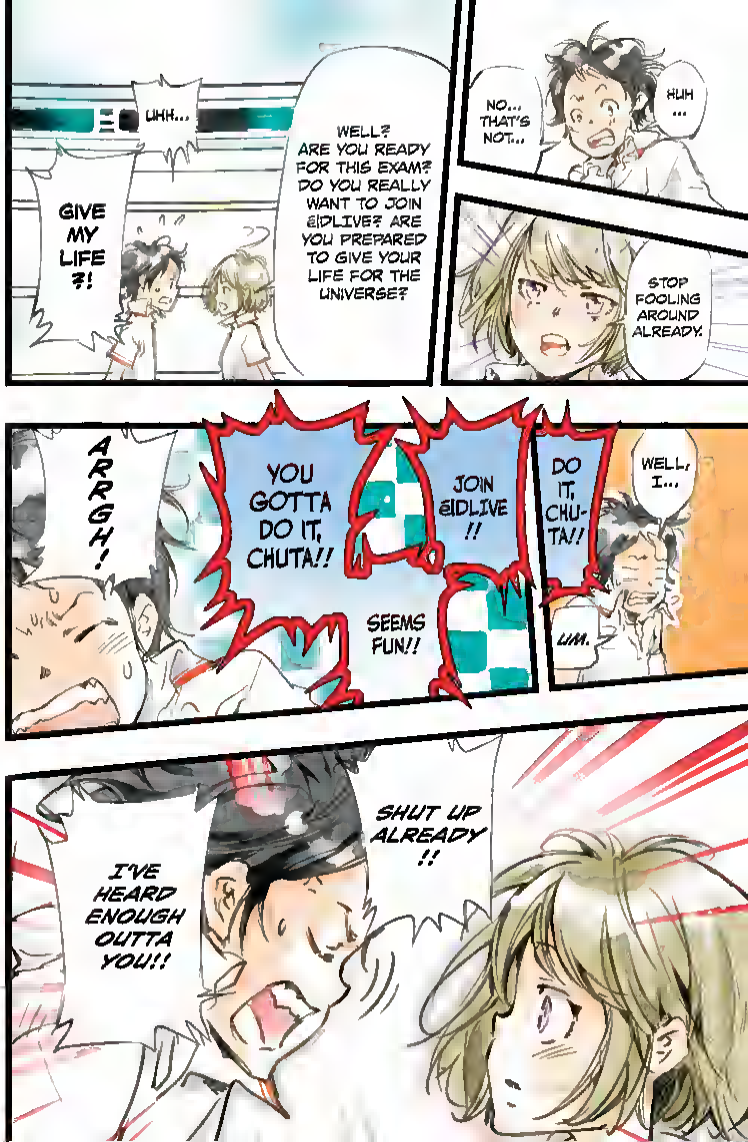

AND THE MOTHERS COMPUTER JUST HAPPENED TO CHOOSE YOU.
WE RECRUIT THOSE WITH THE MAKINGS OF GOOD POLICE AND SEND THEM ACROSS THE UNIVERSE. NEW MEMBERS ARE CHOSEN BY CONSENSUS OF THE MOTHERS COMPUTER.


"BOY"?
HUH?!
PASS, AND YOU CAN JOIN SIDLIVE, BOY.
NOW YOU JUST HAVE TO TAKE THE QUALIFYING EXAM.


I OPPOSE THIS.
I NEVER AGREED TO THIS!!
HOLD ON A MINUTE!!
?
IS THAT AN ORDER?!
SO DO IT! NOW!
OH, YOU'LL BE FINE!


WHA...
POLICE OFFICER ...?
I MEAN... WHAT ARE YOU EVEN DOING HERE?!
HE'S NOT SUITED TO BE AN OBJECTIVE POLICE OFFICER.
WITH ALL THIS TALKING TO HIMSELF, IT'S CLEAR HE SUFFERS FROM DELUSIONS.
SHE'S IGNORING ME.
Y-YEAH?
I OPPOSE THIS, CHIEF.
SNUB
WHAA...?!
AND HE'S A PERV TO BOOT. I SUSPECT THAT HIS MIND IS PERMANENTLY IN THE GUTTER.

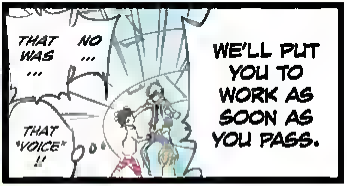

BEFORE LONG, "CHUTA KOKONOSE" WILL BECOME SYNONYMOUS WITH "DISAPPOINTMENT."
HIS CONSTANT MUTTERING SHOWS HOW CONCEITED HE IS. HARDLY SUITED TO A POSITION THAT REQUIRES COOPERATION WITH OTHERS.
"MIND IN THE GUTTER"? C'MON...
A PERV..? IS THIS ABOUT THAT "BOING-BOING" THING?
THIS IS STARTING ...
GAH ...
...TO PISS ME OFF...
SHE'S NOT HOLDING ANYTHING BACK, CHUTA!
THAT'S GOING TOO FAR!
WHAT?
AND THERE'RE THINGS ABOUT ME YOU DON'T KNOW.
HOLD ON AND DON'T SAY ALL THAT STUFF WITHOUT LETTING ME EXPLAIN MYSELF.
HERE COMES A LOVE CONFESSION!!
YOU TELL HER, BOY. PIPU.
PLAYA HATER
WHOA
お・お・
HE SPOKE BACK.


GIVE MY LIFE?!
UHH...
WELL? ARE YOU READY FOR THIS EXAM? DO YOU REALLY WANT TO JOIN SIDLIVE? ARE YOU PREPARED TO GIVE YOUR LIFE FOR THE UNIVERSE?
NO... THAT'S NOT...
HUH...
STOP FOOLING AROUND ALREADY.
ARRGH!
YOU GOTTA DO IT, CHUTA!!
JOIN SIDLIVE!!
SEEMS FUN!!
DO IT, CHU-TA!!
WELL, I...
UM.
I'VE HEARD ENOUGH OUTTA YOU!!
SHUT UP ALREADY!!

YOU...

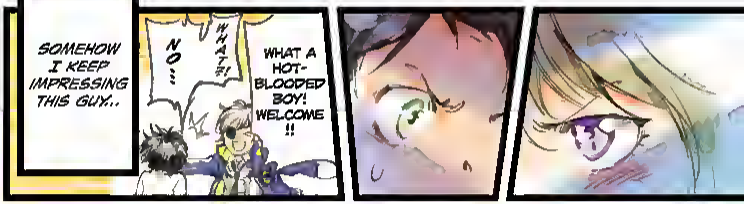
THAT'S THE KIND OF GUMPTION WE'RE LOOKING FOR!!
UM.
GREAT! LET'S DO IT!!

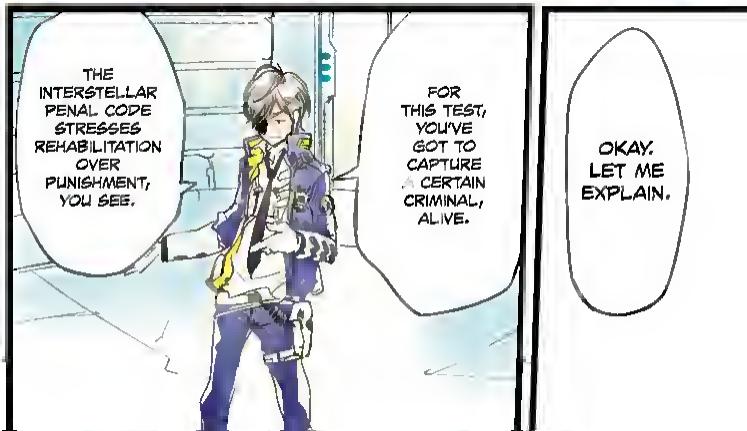
GRR.
SHE'S MOCKING YOU.
FOR SOME REASON, WHEN IT COMES TO SONO-KATA...
THAT WAS THE VOICE'S FAULT, BUT...
DON'T BACK DOWN, CHUTA!

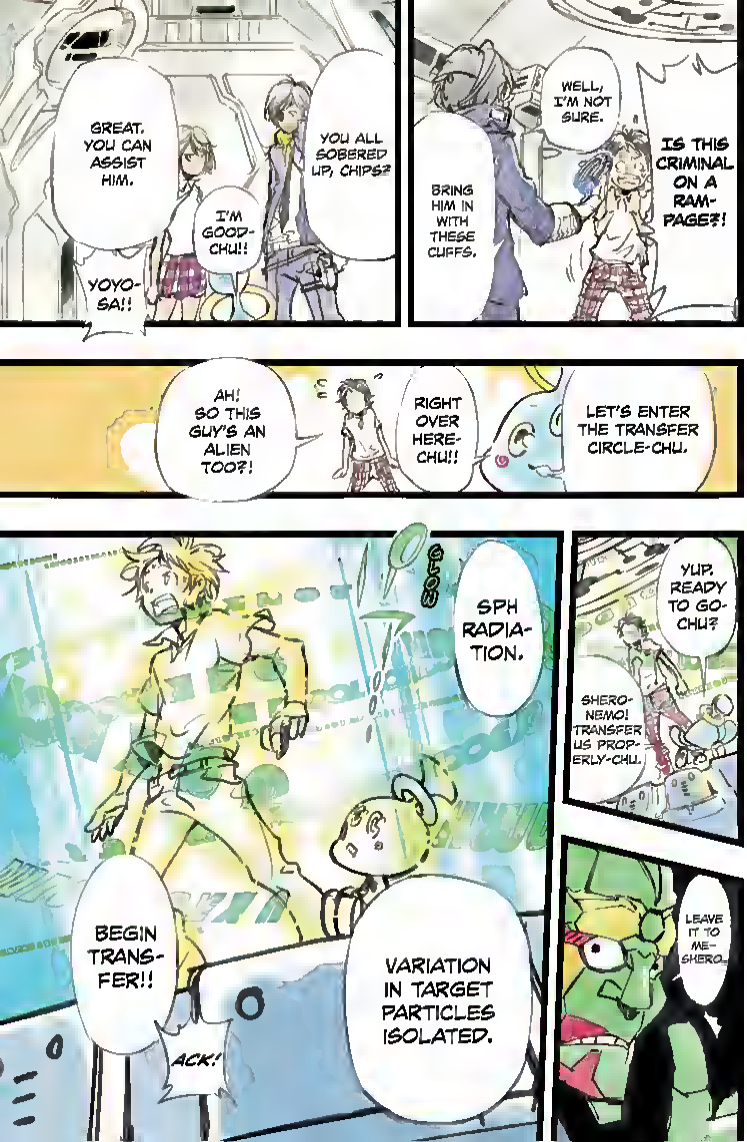

THAT WAS ...
NO ...
THAT "VOICE"!!
WE'LL PUT YOU TO WORK AS SOON AS YOU PASS.

HE'S ABOUT TO CRY AND RUN AWAY.

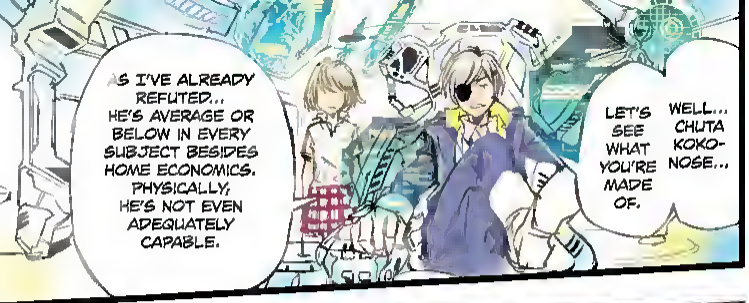
I'LL NEVER KNOW...
STARE
...UNLESS I TRY!
...I CAN'T HOLD BACK.

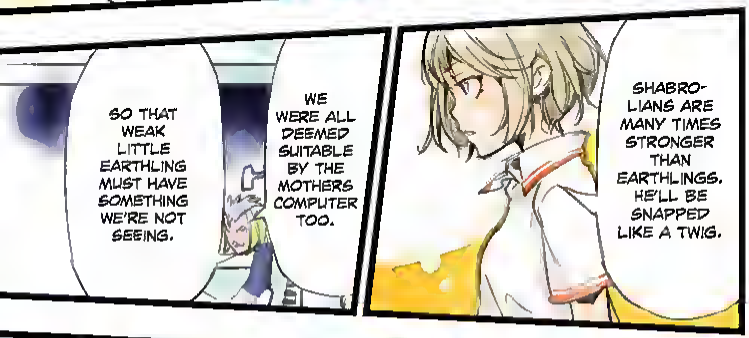

SOMEHOW I KEEP IMPRESSING THIS GUY..
WHAT?!
NO...
WHAT A HOT-BLOODED BOY! WELCOME !!

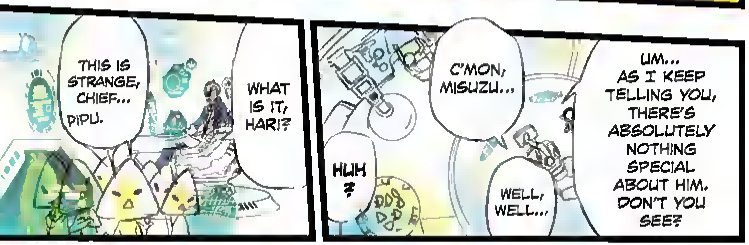

OKAY. LET ME EXPLAIN.
FOR THIS TEST, YOU'VE GOT TO CAPTURE A CERTAIN CRIMINAL, ALIVE.
THE INTERSTELLAR PENAL CODE STRESSES REHABILITATION OVER PUNISHMENT, YOU SEE.

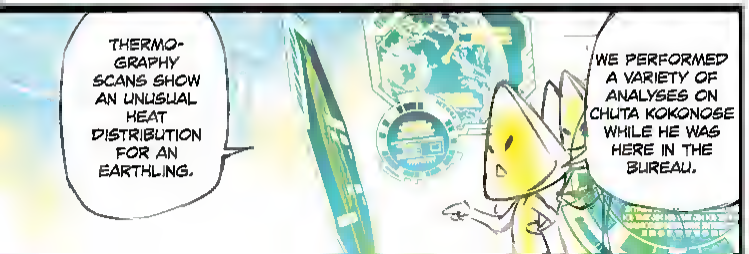

GREAT. YOU CAN ASSIST HIM.
YOU ALL SOBERED UP, CHIPS?
I'M GOOD-CHU!!
YOYO-SA!!
WELL, I'M NOT SURE.
IS THIS CRIMINAL ON A RAM-PAGE?!
BRING HIM IN WITH THESE CUFFS.
AH! SO THIS GUY'S AN ALIEN TOO?!
RIGHT OVER HERE-CHU!!
LET'S ENTER THE TRANSFER CIRCLE-CHU.
GOGO
SPH RADIA-TION.
BEGIN TRANS-FER!!
ACK!
VARIATION IN TARGET PARTICLES ISOLATED.
YUP. READY TO GO-CHU?
SHERO-NEMO! TRANSFER US PROP-ERLY-CHU.
LEAVE IT TO ME-SHERO.

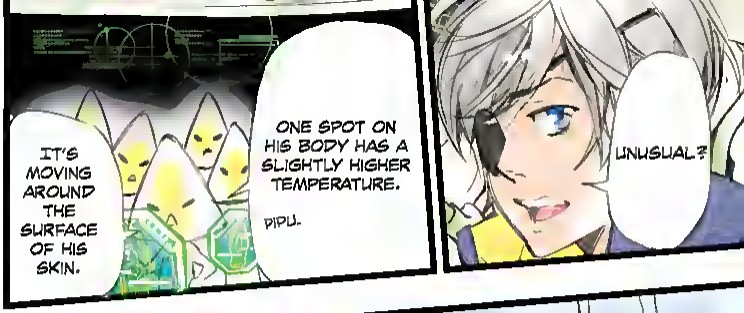
I FORGOT TO ASK WHERE WE'RE GOING!!
SO BRIGHT!!
WHAT'S OUR DESTI-NATION?!
SO BRIGHT!!
ZOOM
UGH.
WHERE ARE WE?
WAIT A SECOND ...
THIS LOOKS FAMILIAR ...
SLAM!
OWCH!
SCREWED UP AGAIN-CHU.
CHUTA ...
IT'S THE KEIKI WARD. BLOCK THREE.
OH RIGHT !!
WE'RE CLOSE TO HOME!! BUT WHY HERE?

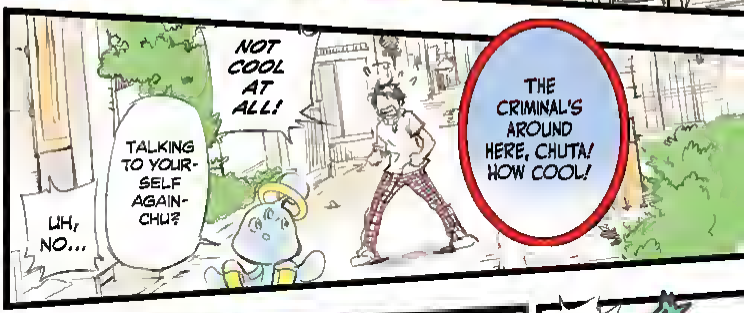

WELL... CHUTA KOKONOSE...
LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF.
AS I'VE ALREADY REFUTED... HE'S AVERAGE OR BELOW IN EVERY SUBJECT BESIDES HOME ECONOMICS. PHYSICALLY, HE'S NOT EVEN ADEQUATELY CAPABLE.


SHABRO-LIANS ARE MANY TIMES STRONGER THAN EARTHLINGS. HE'LL BE SNAPPED LIKE A TWIG.
WE WERE ALL DEEMED SUITABLE BY THE MOTHERS COMPUTER TOO.
SO THAT WEAK LITTLE EARTHLING MUST HAVE SOMETHING WE'RE NOT SEEING.

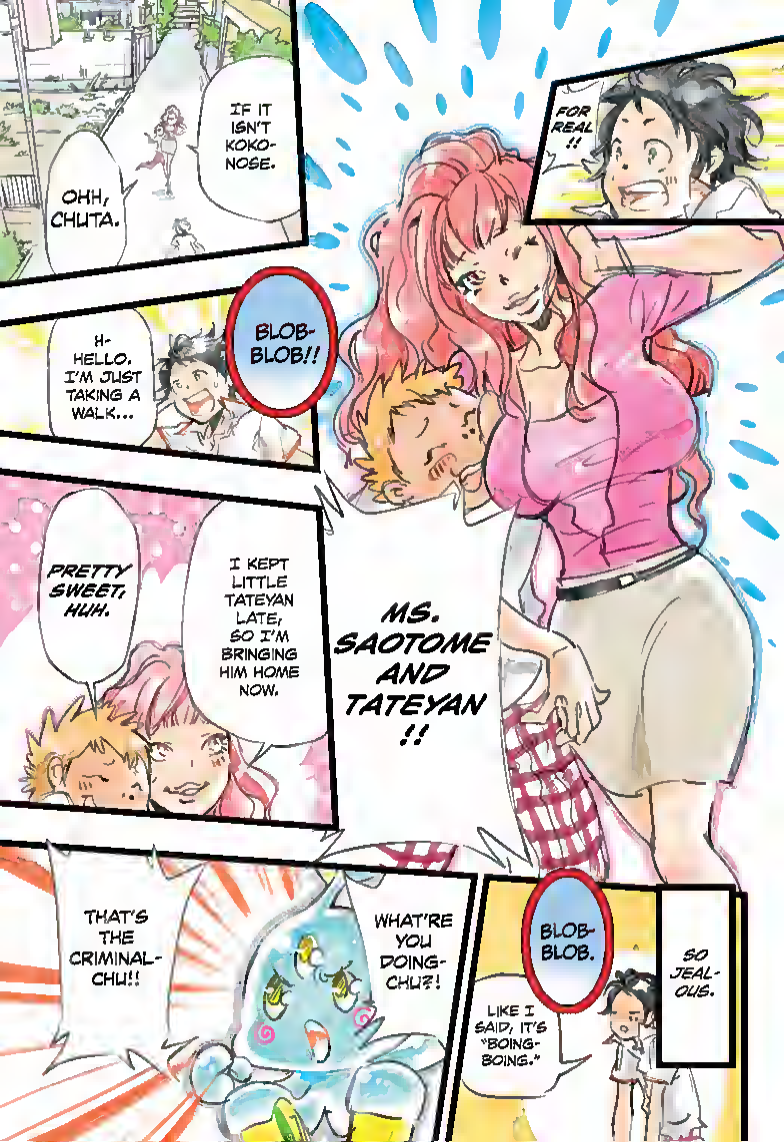

UM... AS I KEEP TELLING YOU, THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NOTHING SPECIAL ABOUT HIM. DON'T YOU SEE?
C'MON, MISUZU...
WELL, WELL...
HUH ?
WHAT IS IT, HAR!?
THIS IS STRANGE, CHIEF... PIPU.

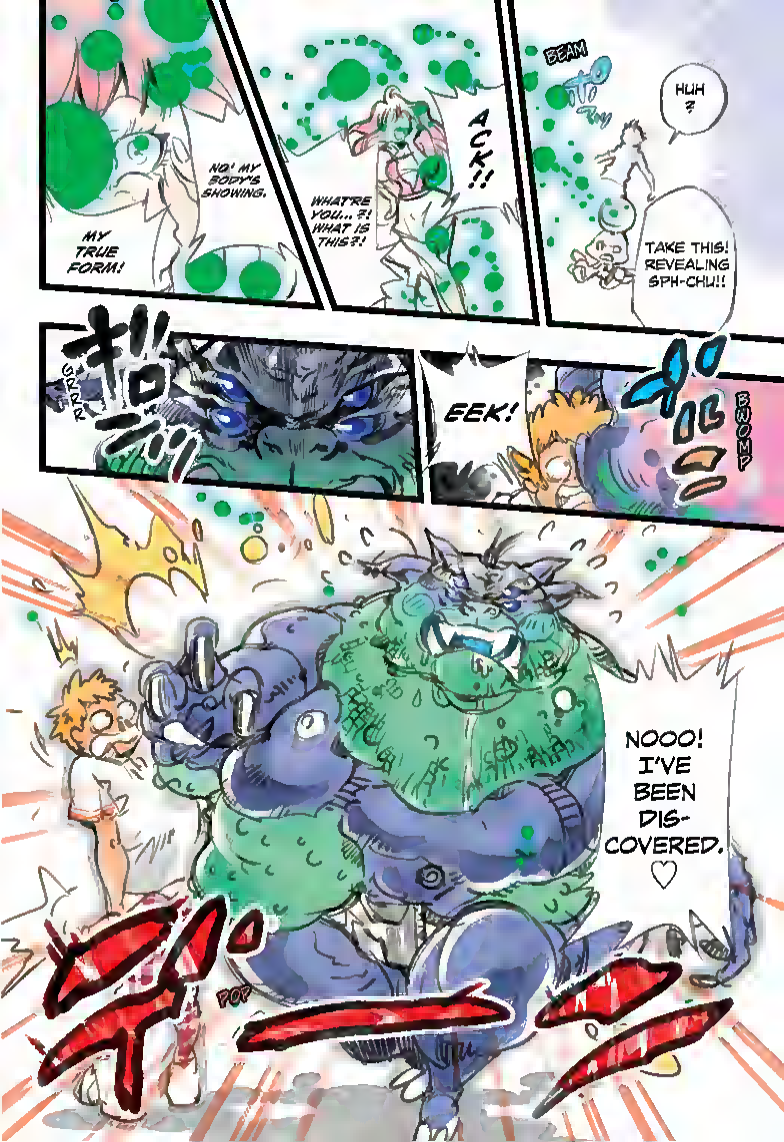

WE PERFORMED A VARIETY OF ANALYSES ON CHUTA KOKONOSE WHILE HE WAS HERE IN THE BUREAU.
THERMO-GRAPHY SCANS SHOW AN UNUSUAL HEAT DISTRIBUTION FOR AN EARTHLING.


IT'S MOVING AROUND THE SURFACE OF HIS SKIN.
ONE SPOT ON HIS BODY HAS A SLIGHTLY HIGHER TEMPERATURE.
PIPU.
UNUSUAL?


NOT COOL AT ALL!
THE CRIMINAL'S AROUND HERE, CHUTA! HOW COOL!
TALKING TO YOURSELF AGAIN-CHU?
UH, NO...

W-WHAT DO WE DO?
WHAT SORT OF ALIEN IS IT ...?
ARGH! I'M NERVOUS.
LET'S HIDE-CHU. SEEMS LIKE THE CRIMINAL'S COMING-CHU.
YOYOSA!!
CRIMINAL IS APPROACHING.

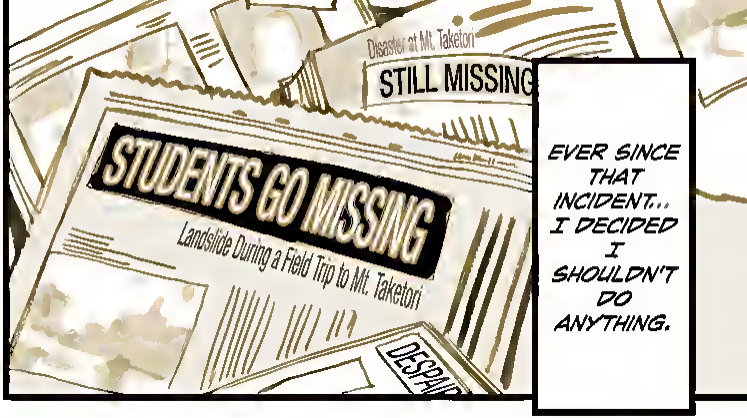

IF IT ISN'T KOKO-NOSE.
OHH, CHUTA.
H-HELLO. I'M JUST TAKING A WALK...
BLOB-BLOB!!
FOR REAL!!
I KEPT LITTLE TATEYAN LATE, SO I'M BRINGING HIM HOME NOW.
PRETTY SWEET, HUH.
MS. SAOTOME AND TATEYAN!!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING-CHU?!
THAT'S THE CRIMINAL-CHU!!
SO JEAL-OUS.
BLOB-BLOB.
LIKE I SAID, IT'S "BOING-BOING."

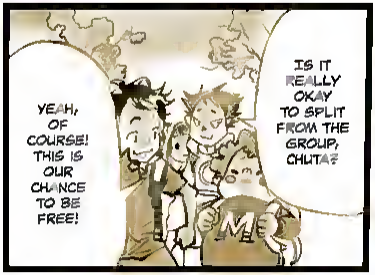

MY TRUE FORM!
NO! MY BODY'S SHOWING.
WHAT'RE YOU...?! WHAT IS THIS?!
ACK!!
BEAM
HUH ?
TAKE THIS! REVEALING SPH-CHU!!
GRRR
EEK!
BOOMP
NOOO! I'VE BEEN DIS-COVERED. ♡
POP

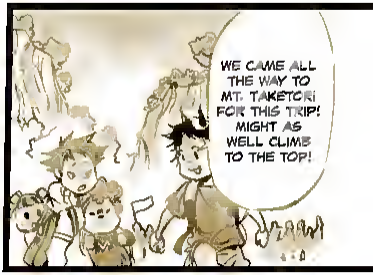
NOOO!
Y-YIKES!
IT REALLY WAS BLOB-BLOB, CHUTA!
I MIGHT'VE GONE WITH "CHUB-CHUB"!!
HOW RUDE! HOLD YOUR TONGUE!
WHERE'D THIS MONSTER COME FROM?!
THIS IS A C-CLASS CRIMINAL WHO DISGUISES HERSELF IN ORDER TO PREY ON EARTHLINGS.
SHE'S BOCHA, AN ALIEN FROM SHABROL-CHU!
P-PREY? YOU MEAN EAT?
RAWR
THAT'S RIGHT.
WAAHH!!
WELL, GO ON AND ARREST HER, CHUTA KOKONOSE-CHU!!
!

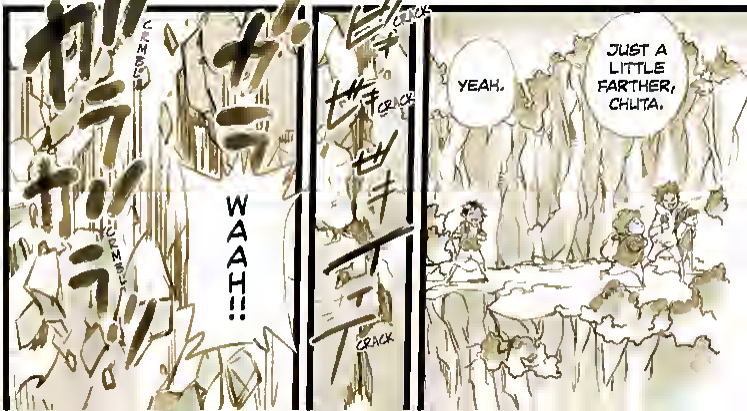
YOU'RE WITH ēi-DLIVE?!
HUH?
YOU KNOW IT?
!
ARREST?
THAT BADGE!!
...AND THIS BRAT DIES!!
ONE STEP CLOSER...
SHOP
YOU'LL NEVER CAPTURE ME!!
SQUEEZE
I'M SERIOUS!!
EEK.. I CAN'T ESCAPE!
THIS IS BAD.
DARN! A HOSTAGE!!
NOT TATE-YAN!!
OH NO!

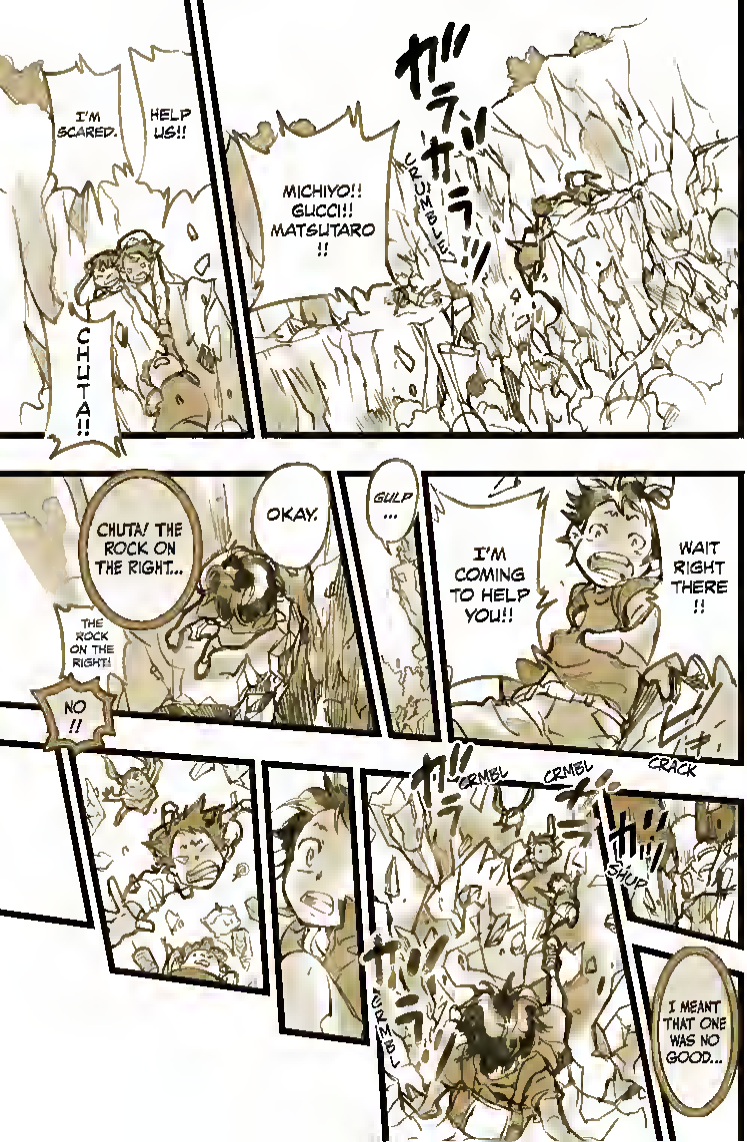
HUH ?
NUUU.
DON'T HELP HIM, CHIPS.
CHUTA!!
H-HELP ME!
!!
I CAN'T DO IT..
HELP US!!!
CHUTA!!
HELP ME, CHUTA !!

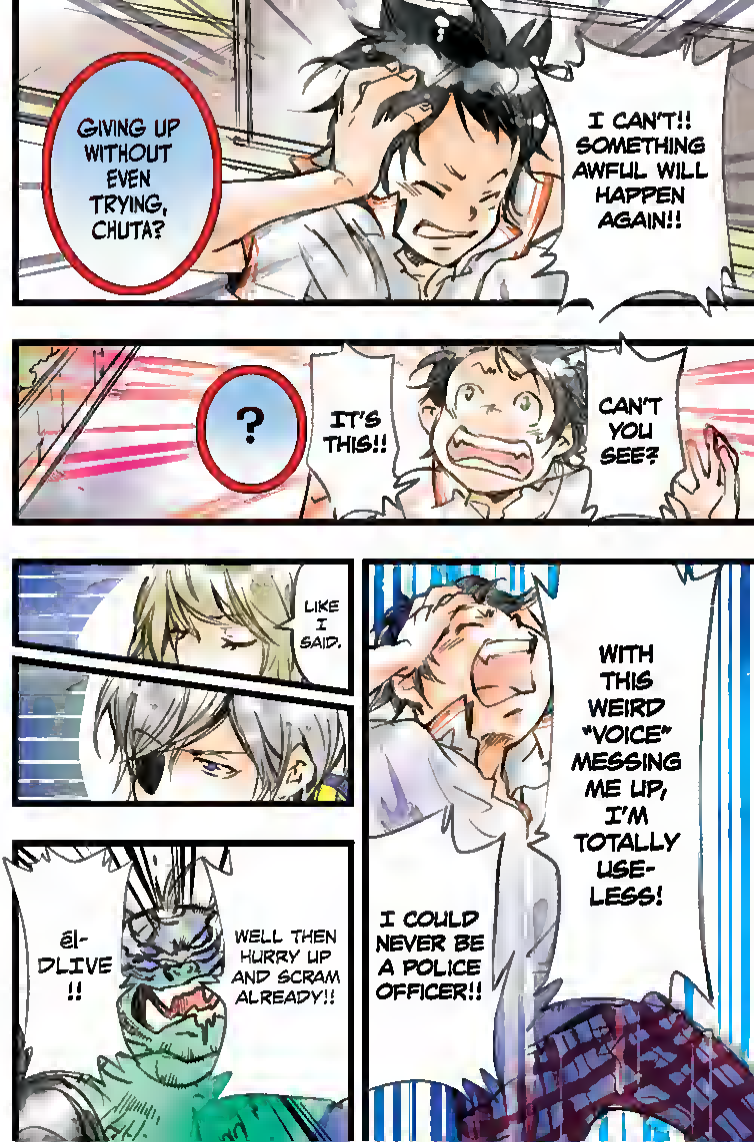

Disaster at Mt. Taketori
STILL MISSING
STUDENTS GO MISSING
Landslide During a Field Trip to Mt. Taketori
DESPAIR
EVER SINCE THAT INCIDENT... I DECIDED I SHOULDN'T DO ANYTHING.

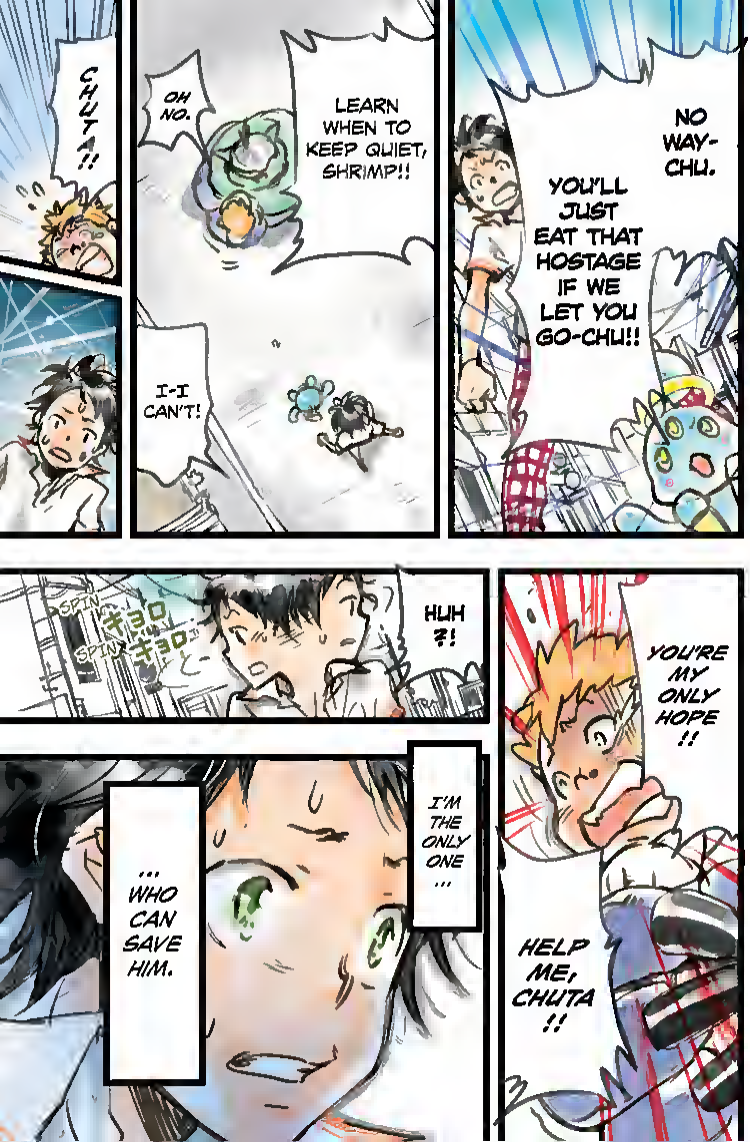

YEAH, OF COURSE! THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO BE FREE!
IS IT REALLY OKAY TO SPLIT FROM THE GROUP, CHUTA?
ME

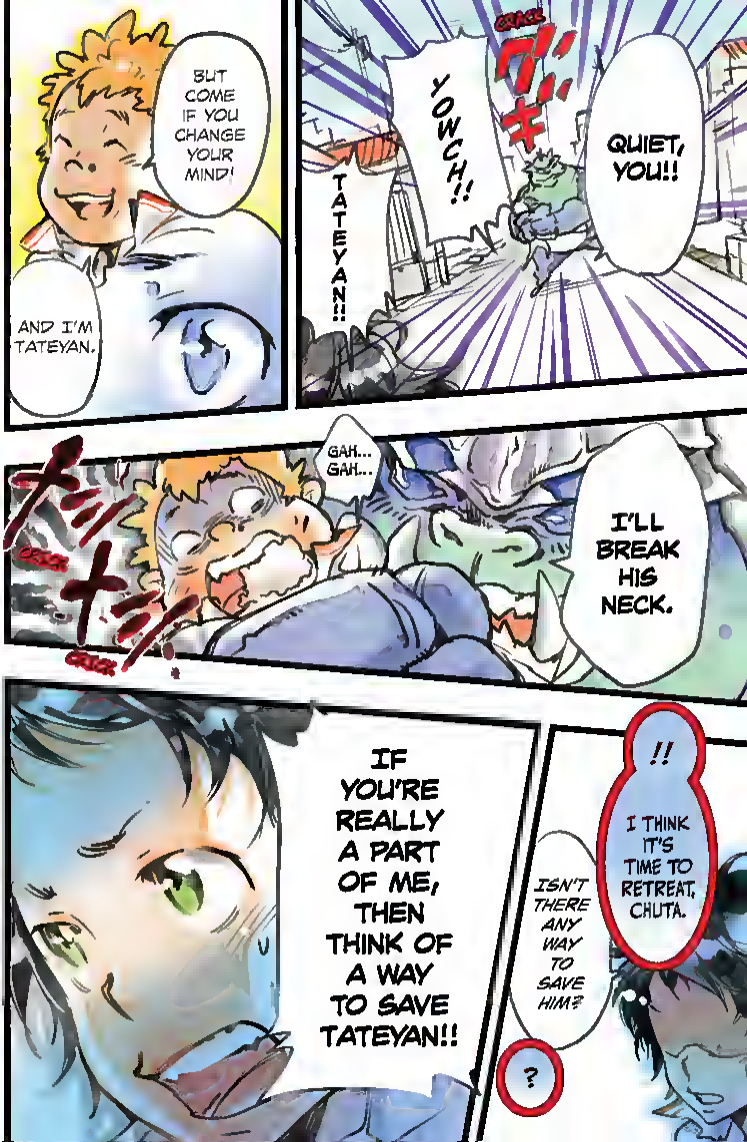

WE CAME ALL THE WAY TO MT. TAKETORI FOR THIS TRIP! MIGHT AS WELL CLIMB TO THE TOP!

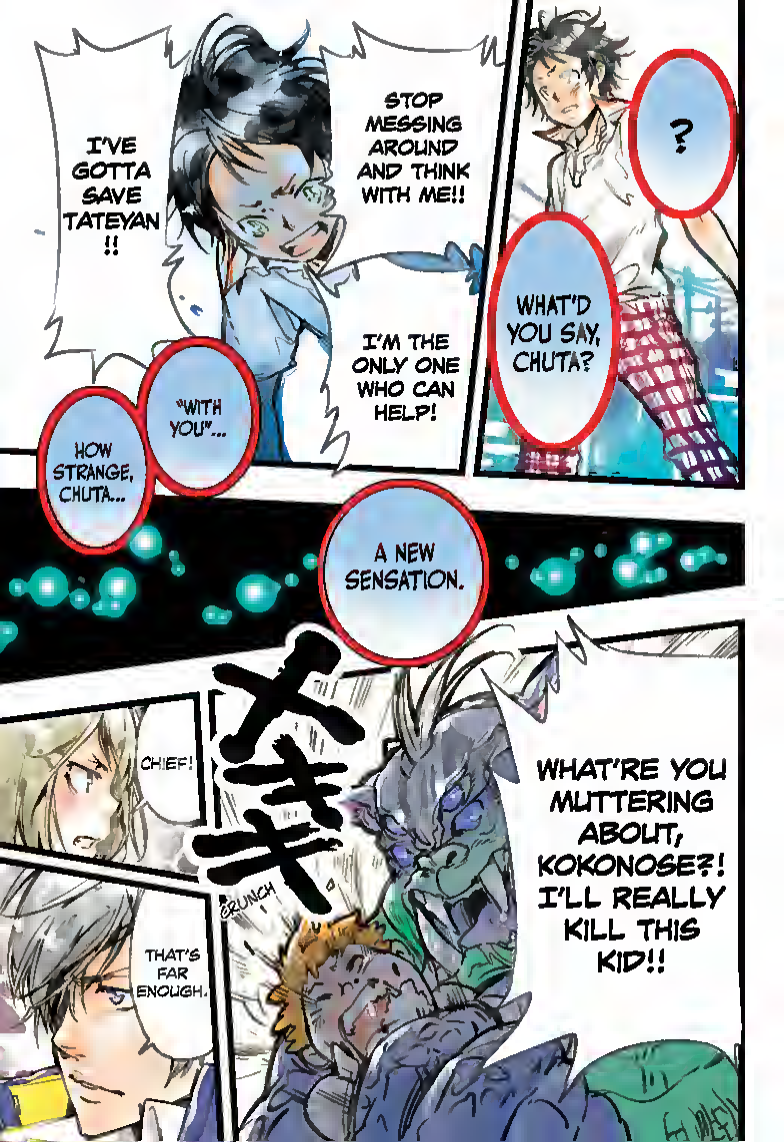

WAAH!!
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
YEAH.
JUST A LITTLE FARTHER, CHUTA.


I'M SCARED.
HELP US!!
CHUTA!!
MICHIYO!! GUCCI!! MATSUTARO !!
GARAGARA
URUMBLE
WAIT RIGHT THERE !!
I'M COMING TO HELP YOU!!
GULP ...
OKAY.
CHUTA! THE ROCK ON THE RIGHT...
THE ROCK ON THE RIGHT!
NO !!
CRACK
CRMBL
CRMBL
SHUP
URUMBLE
I MEANT THAT ONE WAS NO GOOD...


GIVING UP WITHOUT EVEN TRYING, CHUTA?
I CAN'T!! SOMETHING AWFUL WILL HAPPEN AGAIN!!
?
IT'S THIS!!
CAN'T YOU SEE?
LIKE I SAID.
WITH THIS WEIRD "VOICE" MESSING ME UP, I'M TOTALLY USE-LESS!
I COULD NEVER BE A POLICE OFFICER!!
él-DLIVE !!
WELL THEN HURRY UP AND SCRAM ALREADY!!


NO WAY-CHU.
YOU'LL JUST EAT THAT HOSTAGE IF WE LET YOU GO-CHU!!
LEARN WHEN TO KEEP QUIET, SHRIMP!!
OH NO.
I-I CAN'T!
CHUTA!!
HUH?!
SPIN
キョロ
YOU'RE MY ONLY HOPE!!
HELP ME, CHUTA!!
I'M THE ONLY ONE...
...WHO CAN SAVE HIM.

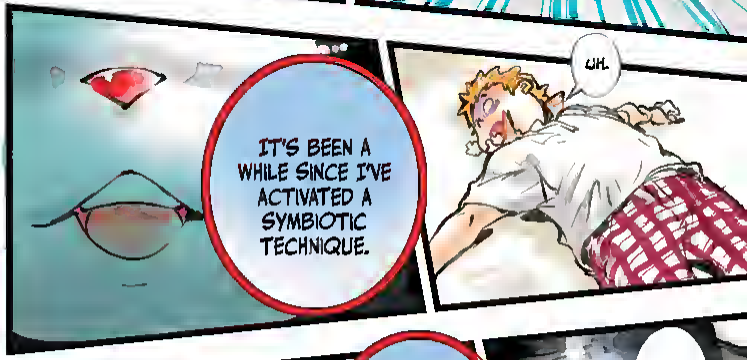

BUT COME IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND!
AND I'M TATEYAN.
TATEYAN!!
YOWCH!!
QUIET, YOU!!
I'LL BREAK HIS NECK.
GAH... GAH...
IF YOU'RE REALLY A PART OF ME, THEN THINK OF A WAY TO SAVE TATEYAN!!
ISN'T THERE ANY WAY TO SAVE HIM?
?
!!
I THINK IT'S TIME TO RETREAT, CHUTA.

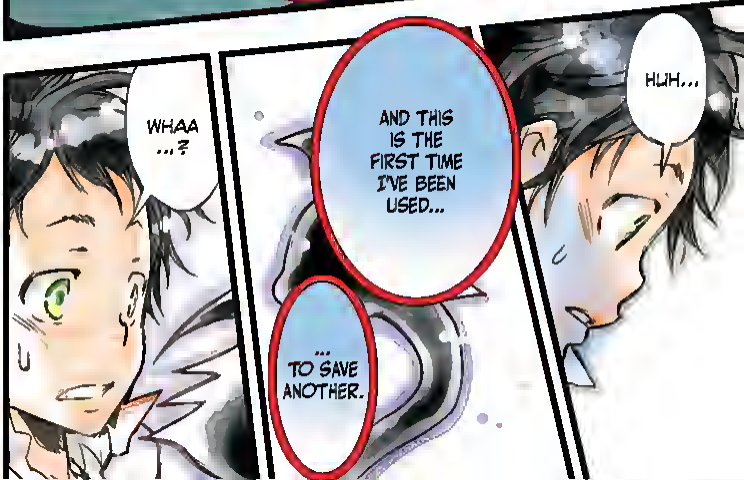

I'VE GOTTA SAVE TATEYAN !!
STOP MESSING AROUND AND THINK WITH ME!!
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP!
?
WHAT'D YOU SAY, CHUTA?
"WITH YOU"...
HOW STRANGE, CHUTA...
A NEW SENSATION.
CHIEF!
THAT'S FAR ENOUGH.
ズキ
CRUNCH
WHAT'RE YOU MUTTERING ABOUT, KOKONOSE?! I'LL REALLY KILL THIS KID!!

CHUTA KOKO-NOSE'S SPH LEVELS ARE RISING!!
!!
?!
I FEEL HIM BREAKING.
CRACK
LET GO OF...
... TATE-YAN.
NO.
ST...
STOP THAT !!

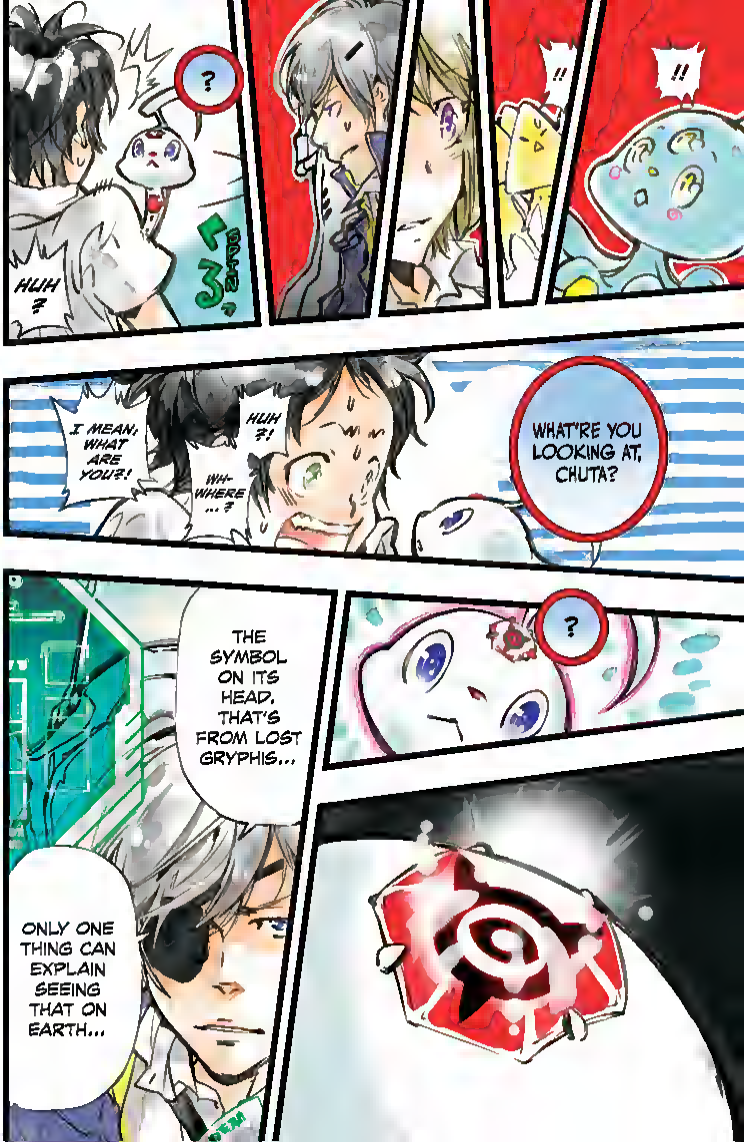
SYMPATHY!!
BURST

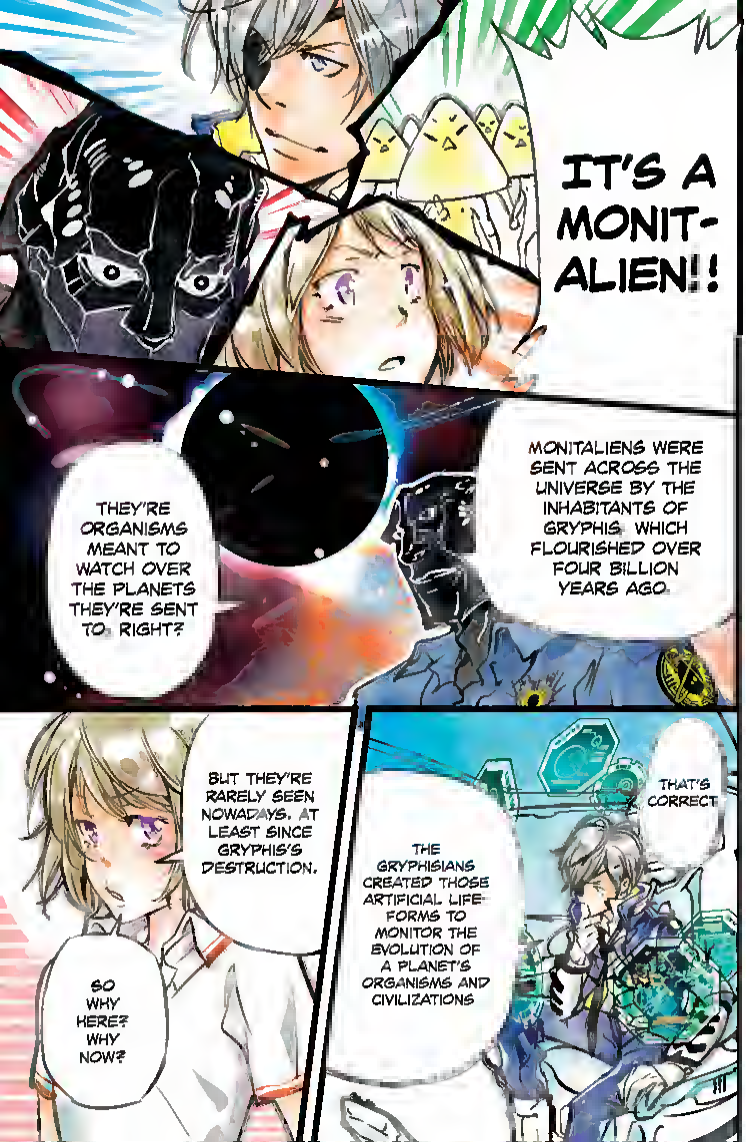
!!
!
BLARGH!

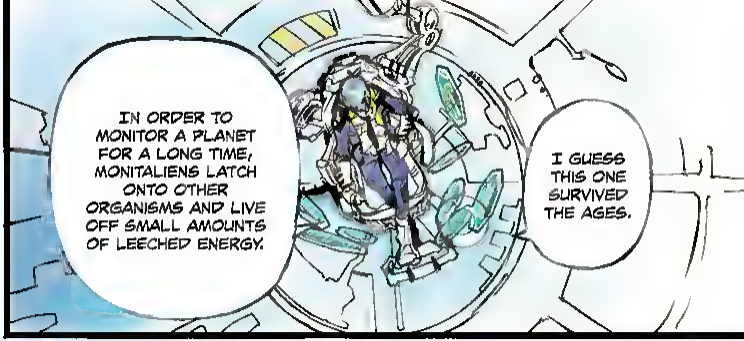

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE ACTIVATED A SYMBIOTIC TECHNIQUE.
UH.


WHAA ...?
AND THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN USED...
... TO SAVE ANOTHER.
HUH...

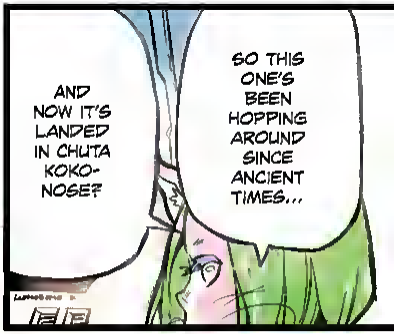
BAM
WHAT ?!

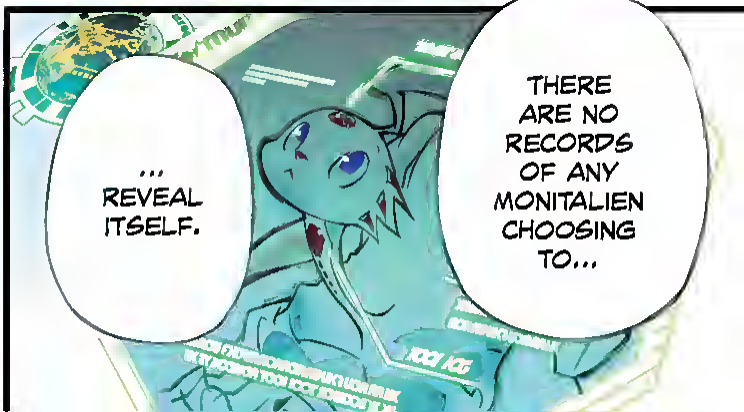

?
HUH?
EPISODE 3
!
!!
!!
WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING AT, CHUTA?
HUH?!
I MEAN, WHAT ARE YOU?!
WH-WHERE...?
?
THE SYMBOL ON ITS HEAD. THAT'S FROM LOST GRYPHIS...
ONLY ONE THING CAN EXPLAIN SEEING THAT ON EARTH...

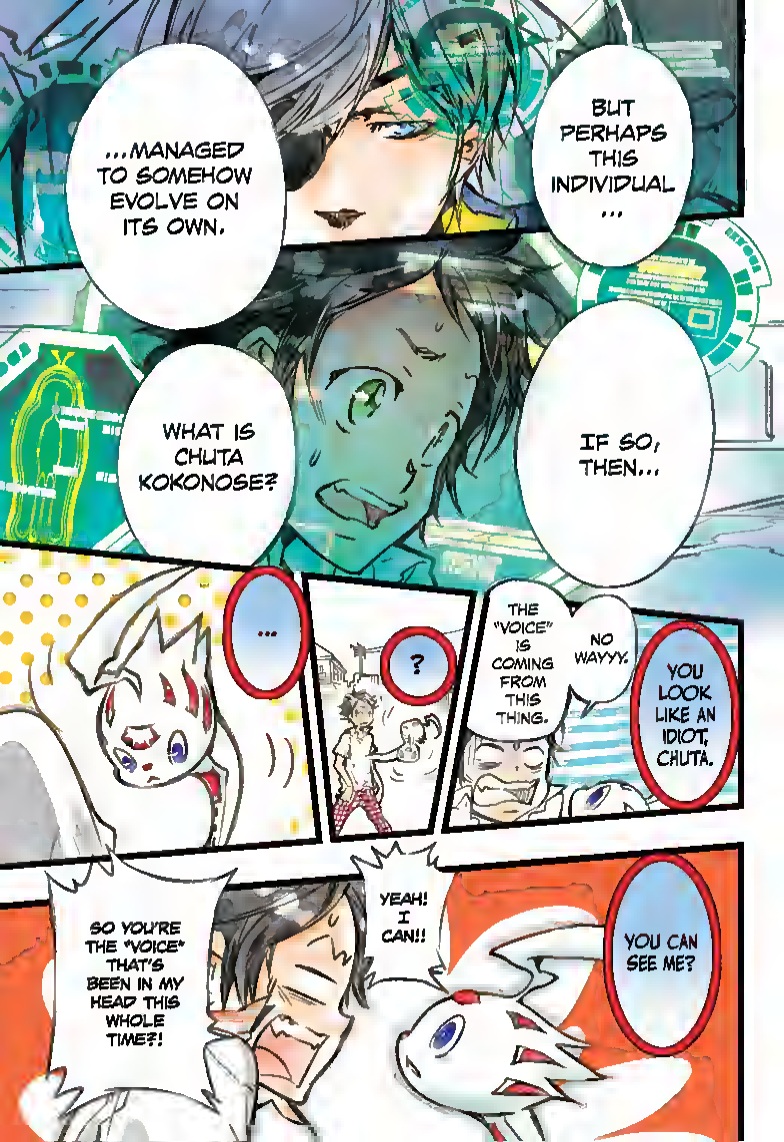

IT'S A MONIT-ALIEN!!
MONITALIENS WERE SENT ACROSS THE UNIVERSE BY THE INHABITANTS OF GRYPHIS, WHICH FLOURISHED OVER FOUR BILLION YEARS AGO.
THEY'RE ORGANISMS MEANT TO WATCH OVER THE PLANETS THEY'RE SENT TO. RIGHT?
THAT'S CORRECT.
THE GRYPHISIANS CREATED THOSE ARTIFICIAL LIFE-FORMS TO MONITOR THE EVOLUTION OF A PLANET'S ORGANISMS AND CIVILIZATIONS
BUT THEY'RE RARELY SEEN NOWADAYS. AT LEAST SINCE GRYPHIS'S DESTRUCTION.
SO WHY HERE? WHY NOW?


IN ORDER TO MONITOR A PLANET FOR A LONG TIME, MONITALIENS LATCH ONTO OTHER ORGANISMS AND LIVE OFF SMALL AMOUNTS OF LEECHED ENERGY.
I GUESS THIS ONE SURVIVED THE AGES.

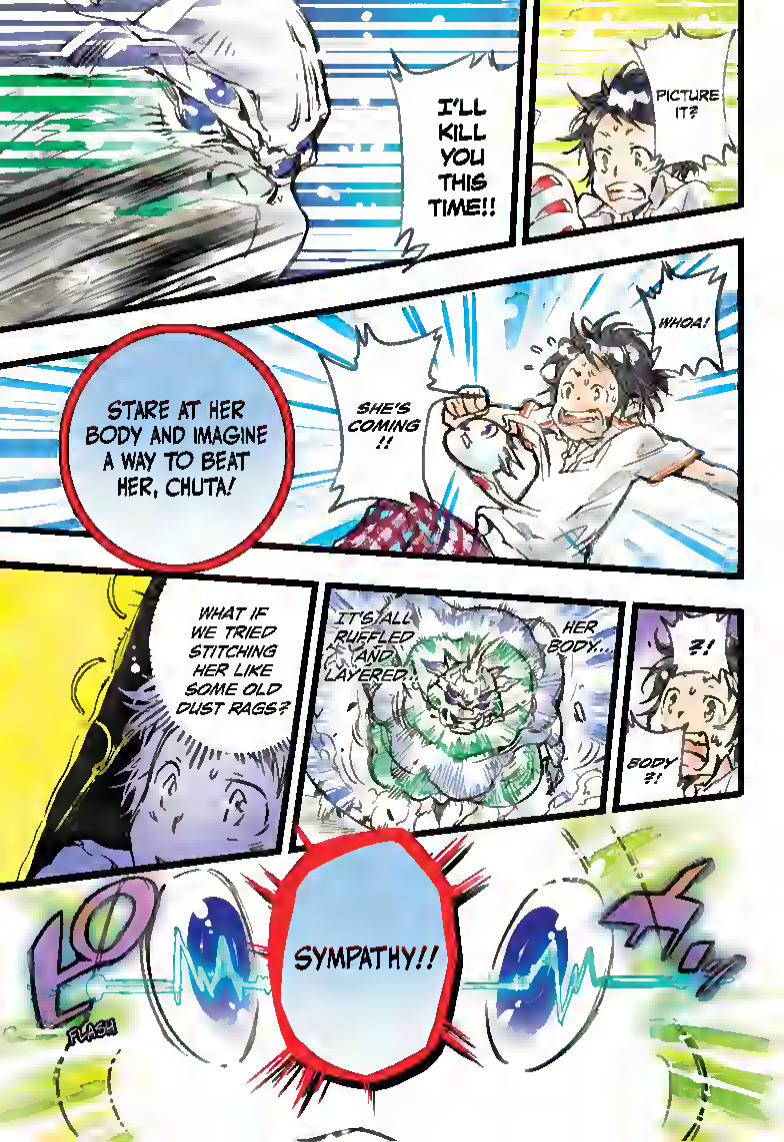
I'M SURPRISED, THOUGH.

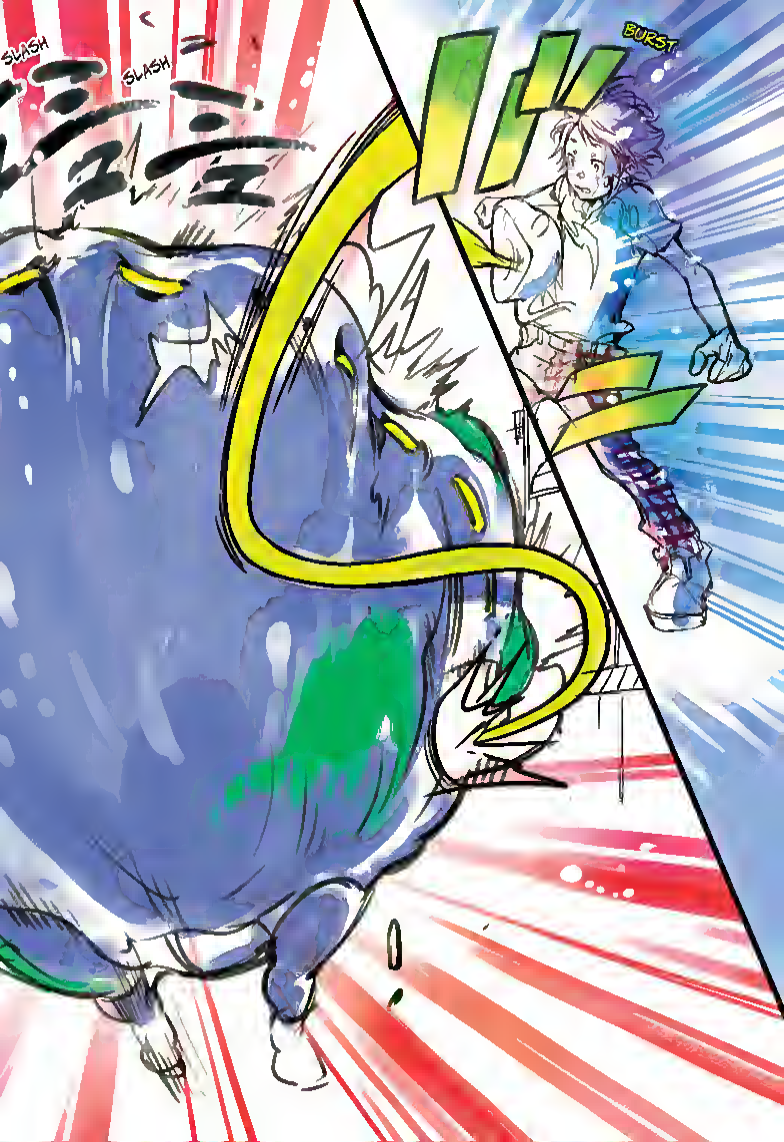

AND NOW IT'S LANDED IN CHUTA KOKO-NOSE?
SO THIS ONE'S BEEN HOPPING AROUND SINCE ANCIENT TIMES...

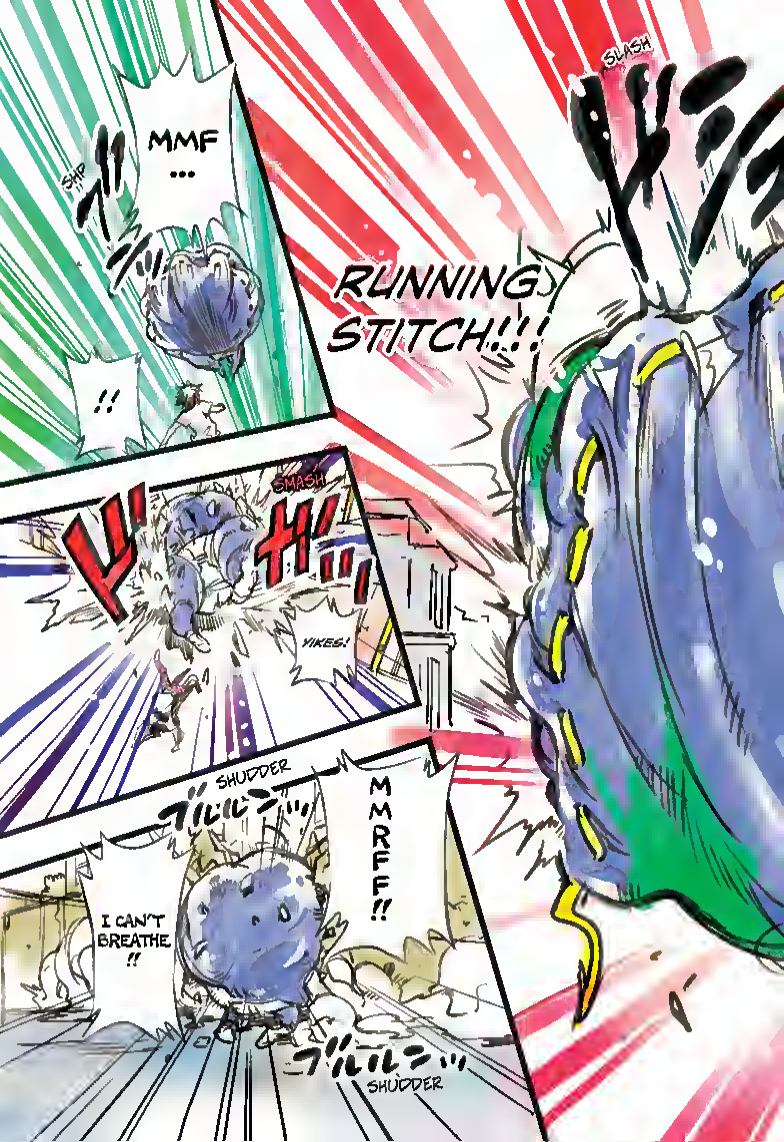

... REVEAL ITSELF.
THERE ARE NO RECORDS OF ANY MONITALIEN CHOOSING TO...


...MANAGED TO SOMEHOW EVOLVE ON ITS OWN.
BUT PERHAPS THIS INDIVIDUAL ...
WHAT IS CHUTA KOKONOSE?
IF SO, THEN...
...
?
THE "VOICE" IS COMING FROM THIS THING.
NO WAYYY.
YOU LOOK LIKE AN IDIOT, CHUTA.
SO YOU'RE THE "VOICE" THAT'S BEEN IN MY HEAD THIS WHOLE TIME?!
YEAH! I CAN!!
YOU CAN SEE ME?

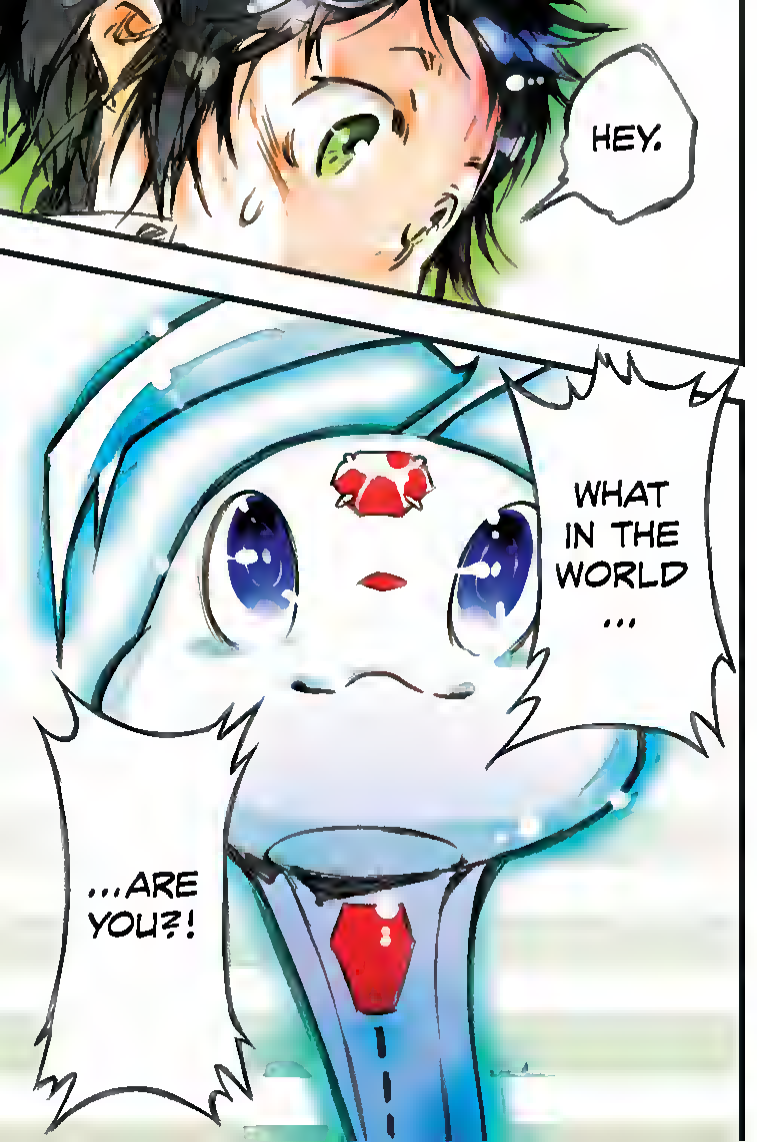
LOOKS LIKE BLOB-BLOB IS GETTING UP.
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER, CHUTA.
UGH ...
GUH ...
EEK.
I SEE.
AS EXPECTED, WE CAN'T HEAR THE MONITALIEN'S VOICE.
BUT IT'S CLEARLY CONVERSING WITH CHUTA KOKONOSE.
AMAZING. TO THINK THAT A MONITALIEN WOULD ACTUALLY ATTACK.
NO. RATHER, IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE INFORMATION IT'S AMASSED.
...IT'S EQUIPPED WITH DEFENSIVE CAPABILITIES.
WAAH!
THIS IS BAD!!
...BUT I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU!!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU DID TO ME...
OUR JOINT ATTACK BEGINS WHEN YOU PICTURE IT.
IMAGINE IT, CHUTA.

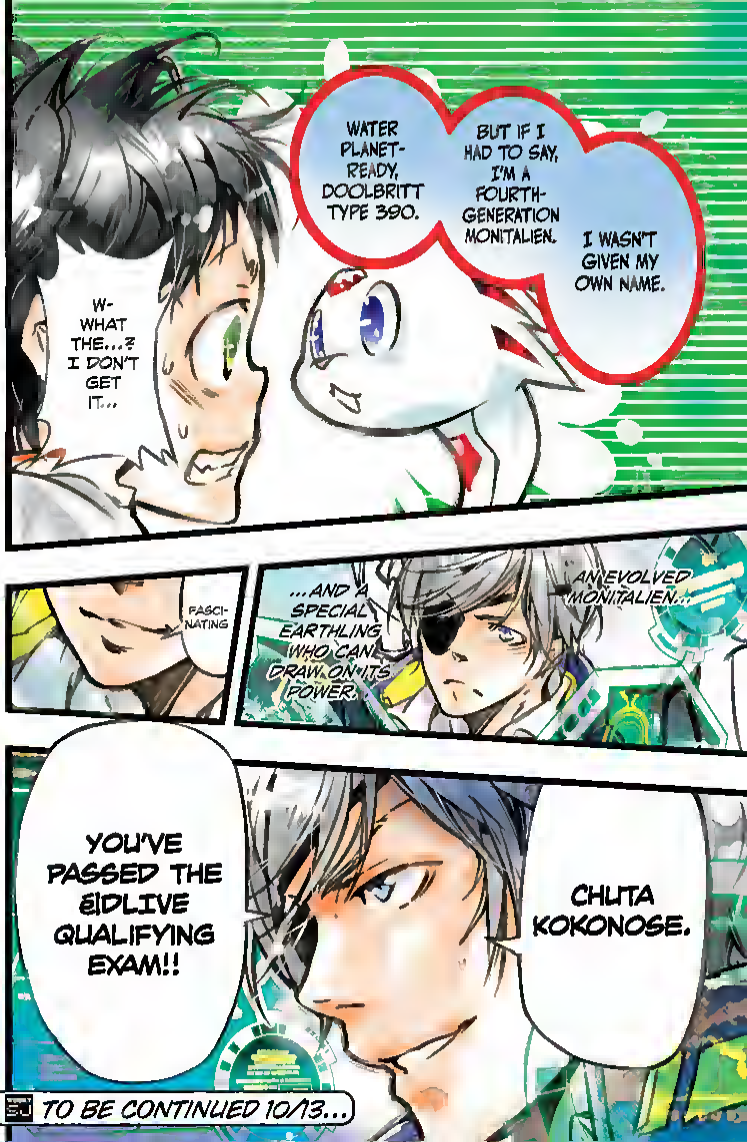

I'LL KILL YOU THIS TIME!!
PICTURE IT?
WHOA!
SHE'S COMING !!
STARE AT HER BODY AND IMAGINE A WAY TO BEAT HER, CHUTA!
WHAT IF WE TRIED STITCHING HER LIKE SOME OLD DUST RAGS?
IT'S ALL RUFFLED AND LAYERED...
HER BODY...
?!
BODY ?!
SYMPATHY!!
FLASH


SLASH
SLASH
BURST


SLASH
RUNNING STITCH!!!
SHP
MMF ...
!!
SMASH
YIKES!
SHUDDER
MMRFF!!
I CAN'T BREATHE !!
SHUDDER

FWIP
AH.
USE THE CUFFS, CHUTA!!
DANCE
UHH...
YOU REALLY DID IT, CHUTA!
HEY!
HOLD ON, NOW !!
YOU DID IT- CHU.


HEY.
WHAT IN THE WORLD ...
...ARE YOU?!


W-WHAT THE...? I DON'T GET IT...
WATER PLANET-READY, DOOLBRITT TYPE 390.
BUT IF I HAD TO SAY, I'M A FOURTH-GENERATION MONITALIEN.
I WASN'T GIVEN MY OWN NAME.
FASCI-NATING
...AND A SPECIAL EARTHLING WHO CAN DRAW ON ITS POWER.
AN EVOLVED MONITALIEN...
YOU'VE PASSED THE 6IDLIVE QUALIFYING EXAM!!
CHUTA KOKONOSE.

TO BE CONTINUED 10/13...